Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: South American Travel (2 pages)	07/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20053

FOLDER TITLE:
South America

2013-0534-S
ry1645

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

August 15, 1995

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR MELANNE VERVEER

FROM: RICHARD E. FEINBERG RF

SUBJECT: First Lady's Trip to Latin America

Attached are ideas for meetings, site visits and speeches for the First Lady's October visit to Latin America. Persuant to our discussions, the proposed schedule revolves around implementation of the initiatives advanced at the Summit of the Americas and its Symposium on Children.

As agreed, the First Lady would concentrate on four Summit initiatives -- health, education, women's rights and microenterprises. Underlining these functional objectives are three subthemes -- popular participation and democratic community organization, equality of opportunity and the rights of minorites, women and children, and preparation for competition in the global marketplace. An additional subtheme, vital to the Miami Summit and U.S. foreign policy more generally, is hemispheric cooperation: hence, projects are preferred which involve some connection with U.S. and multilateral organizations, externally-based non-governmental groups, philantrophic organizations and the private sector.

I propose that in each country Mrs. Clinton concentrate on one of the four key Summit initiatives. She will average little over a day per country, and this sharpened focus will enable her to gain an indepth appreciation for the problems, successes and personalities in any given issue area, while maximizing the impact of her ideas on her hosts. A thematic concentration will also provide coherence to each country visit and facilitate our public affairs strategies. Country themes do not, of course, preclude some attention to the other themes of the trip at each stop. For example, I also propose that in several countries the First Lady catalyze the inauguration of national forum for educational reform, as proposed at the Miami Summit and supported by the USAID PERA project. Meetings with national presidents can include ministers of health and education. Mrs. Clinton can also meet with a group of women leaders in each country.

I propose the following country "focus themes":

-- Nicaragua: Women's rights. Mrs. Chamarro tabled the Summit initiative on women.

-- Chile: Education. Chile is a hemispheric leader in innovative, quality education at all levels -- pre-school, primary, secondary and university.

-- Bolivia: Microenterprise. In Bolivia, microenterprise links with women's empowerment and indigenous participation.

-- Paraguay: Here, the meeting is the message: hemispheric cooperation on behalf of Summit follow-up.

-- Brazil: Health. Brazil's vibrant NGOs have been especially active in health care for women and children.

This memo draws heavily upon ideas proposed by our embassies, USAID, the Inter-American Foundation and various U.S. non-governmental groups with activities in Latin America. I have solicited further ideas for site visits from the offices of our representatives at the World Bank and IDB.

Attachment
First Lady's Trip to Latin America Draft Schedule

cc: Mark Schneider

FIRST LADY'S TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA

DRAFT SCHEDULE

NICARAGUA

Focus Theme: Women's Rights (Mrs. Chamorro's initiative at the Summit of the Americas)

Functions:

Official "must do": Meeting with President Chamorro and ministers of health, education, foreign affairs. Discussion of implementation of Summit initiative on women's rights.

Roundtable:

Embassy has proposed a luncheon hosted by Ambassador or women leaders, including Minister of Health Marta Palacios. Subtheme could be promotion of national dialogue among competing political tendencies on social agenda.

Site visits:

-- Local Health Center: multi-donor (USAID/UNICEF/PAHO) supported project featuring Children's Symposium themes of immunization and maternal-child health. This would be an occasion to highlight Mrs. Clinton's UNICEF role. Could also visit nearby Project Concern International child survival project.

-- Education Project: launch Nicaraguan Partnership for Educational Reform in the Americas (PERA) with Nicaraguan government officials, NGO participants.

-- Others TBD. Should center on women's rights.

CHILE

Focus Theme: Education. Site visits to pre-school project for poor children, quality primary school, vocational high school (time permitting), University to deliver speech.

Functions:

Official "must do": Meeting with President Frei, ministers of education, health, planning, women, foreign affairs. Discussion of Summit of the Americas follow-up conference on poverty

initiatives (health, education, microenterprises, women's rights) scheduled for Santiago in January, 1996.

Site Visits:

-- Integra: pre-school programs for poor children. Mrs. Frei is director. Second largest pre-school program in Chile.

-- Program to Improve Quality and Equity of Primary Education (MECE): model quality public primary schools. Receives World Bank support, being reproduced throughout Latin America.

-- CIDE: vocational high school. CIDE is an NGO with support from the private-sector Chamber of Construction and USAID. Students, parents and faculty can demonstrate the impact that competency-based education (drawn from the U.S. model) is having in Chile.

Speech:

Site: University of Chile, proud symbol of quality higher education and equality of opportunity for upwardly mobile middle and working classes.

Topic: "Summit of the Americas and Social Progress". Focus on key themes of the trip, especially education and its importance for democratic participation, social opportunity and workforce competence in global economy.

Roundtable:

PARTICIPA (reknowned USAID-supported NGO directed by Monica Jimenez and Laura Novoa Vasquez, focusing on women's leadership and civil participation): could assemble women leaders in collaboration with US embassy whose cable provided an excellent list of names. Suggested theme: Chileans are world-class experts on "democracy and social policy."

BOLIVIA

Focus Themes: microenterprise, popular/indigenous participation.

Official "must do": meeting with President and Mrs. Sanchez de Lozada, Vice President and Mrs. Cardenas. Lidia Catari de Cardenas, wife of the Vice President, is specialist of female and bilingual education. Discussion of Sanchez-Cardenas administration reforms aimed at enhancing popular participation and cultural identity. Review of plans for Miami Summit follow-up

"Summit on Sustainable Development" scheduled to convene in Santa Cruz, Bolivia in end-1996.

Embassy reception: to include Arkansas-Eastern Bolivia Partners of the Americas (Governor Clinton was this Partners Honorary Chair).

Site visits (in La Paz or Altiplano):

-- Banco Sol recipients : well-established NGO-originated bank lending primarily to women-run microenterprises.

-- Center of Multi-service Education (CEMSE): NGO-run educational enrichment for primarily indigenous children, includes health brigades and cultural pride performance arts. Could stage indigenous theater, music, art exhibit. Supported by IAF, World Bank. Could combine with launching of Bolivian PERA.

-- Arkansas-Bolivia Partners project. One option: health care project in La Paz on eyesight.

-- Locate microenterprise project supported by Inter-American Development Bank, the "responsible coordinator" of Summit initiative on microterprise.

PARAGUAY

Focus Theme: The Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas: "The Health and Education of Women and Children".

Site visits:

-- Aregua: an opportunity to leave the capital city and travel to the nearby rural town of Aregua, to visit: La Candelaria Foundation, private community development organization with programs offering primary schooling, daycare, popular arts and assistance to microentrepreneurs, 60% of whom are women; and a Peace Corps volunteer training center.

Speech:

Site: Keynote at Conference: results from the Miami Children's Symposium.

Theme: Follow-up to Summit of the Americas and Miami Symposium on Children: measles elimination, PERA, upcoming Chilean conference on poverty, other initiatives.

BRAZIL

BRASILIA

Official "must do": Meeting with President and Mrs. Cardoso, ministers of education, health.

Roundtable:

Topic: Poverty alleviation and women's access to social services.

Participants: Prominent women leaders in social reform, especially members of Congress. Embassy cable list an excellent start.

Speech:

Site: University or ministry of health/education.

Topic: Summary of Trip "Findings".

SALVADOR, BAHIA

Focus Theme: health, especially of women and children.

-- Project Axe: health and education for street children. Supported by USAID. Presentation of Brazilian dance and music. Could be accompanied by Mayor of Salvador, Lidice da Matta who has actively supported this project.

-- Citizen's Anti-Hunger Campaign: major grassroots campaign to feed the poor, catalyzed by the Institute for Social and Economic Analysis (IBASE) and social activist Herbert "Betinho" de Souza. Presence of Betinho highly desirable.

-- Citizenship, Research, Information and Action (CEPIA): NGO focused on poor women's and children's health care and reproductive health issues. Jacqueline Pitanguay is dynamic director. (Need to check if good Salvador site.)

-- Solidarity Community: a health-oriented project of Mrs. Cardoso's choosing. She directs "Solidarity Community."

-- Hospital Tysalla Balbina: includes model program on women's reproductive health targeting maternal mortality. Accompanied by Dr. Balbina Pessoa, Bahia State's coordinator of women's health, a leader in health care reform.

file S Armacost

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PRT: FIRST LADY SIT
SIT: ARMSTRONG BASSETT DYMERSKY FEINBERG NSC SUM SUM2

<PREC> ROUTINE <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 221306Z JAN 96

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0288
INFO RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 000122

STATE ALSO FOR ARA/SCO, ARACEN
WHITE HOUSE FOR MRS. CLINTON

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KSUM, HO
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM HONDURAN FIRST LADY TO MRS. CLINTON

1. FOLLOWING IS AN EMBASSY UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF A LETTER WE RECEIVED FROM HONDURAN FIRST LADY BESSIE WATSON DE REINA TO MRS. CLINTON IN RESPONSE TO MRS. CLINTON'S NOVEMBER 21 LETTER RECALLING THE ASUNCION CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN FIRST LADIES. WE WILL POUCH THE ORIGINAL TO ARA/SCO FOR FORWARDING TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

TEGUCIGALPA, J)NUARY 16, 1996

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
FIRST LADY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEAR MRS. CLINTON:

IT WAS A PLEASURE TO RECEIVE YOUR GRACIOUS LETTER IN WHICH YOU HAD THE KINDNESS AND CONSIDERATION TO REMEMBER OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS, AS WELL AS THE ADVANCES ACHIEVED BY MY COUNTRY IN CHILDREN'S IMMUNIZATIONS AND THE CONTROL OF MEASLES. I AGREE WITH YOU IN REGARDS TO THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT WE AS FIRST LADIES SHOULD ASSUME IN SUPPORT OF OUR RESPECTIVE NATIONS' SOCIAL PROGRAMS. MAINTAINING A PERMANENT DIALOGUE WILL HELP US IN THE VERY VALUABLE INTERCHANGE OF IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES.

AS PART OF THAT INTERCHANGE, I FOUND THAT IN YOUR EXCELLENT PARTICIPATION IN GQ5TE AND GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS IN

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATION'S FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, YOU
ADDRESSED HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE EXPERIENCE OF
WOMEN THAT MERIT, AS CALLED FOR BY ALL OF HUMANITY, EFFORTS
AND POLICIES ON A WORLD SCALE. FOR THAT REASON, I REPEAT YOUR
WORDS: "TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF NEW HEIGHTS OF
DIGNITY AND RESPECT FOR THE WOMEN AND GIRLS OF THE ENTIRE
WORLD; AND IN SO DOING, TO STRENGTHEN AND STABILIZE OUR
FAMILIES." WE WILL GIVE THE CONTENT OF THAT MESSAGE A WIDE
DIFFUSION AMONG THE WOMEN OF HONDURAS. I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE
WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER IN A JOINT EFFORT.

ACCEPT THE RENEWED ASSURANCE OF MY HIGHEST AND MOST
DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION.

BESSIE WATSON DE REINA
FIRST LADY OF HONDURAS

END TEXT.

PRYCE
BT
#0122

NNNN
<MSGID> M2043164

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PRT: FIRST LADY SIT
SIT: NSC SUM SUM2

<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 281223Z JUL 95

FM USEU BRUSSELS

TO RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID
INFO ////
UNCLAS BRUSSELS 007923

WHITE HOUSE FOR MRS. CLINTON FROM AMBASSADOR EIZENSTAT
MADRID FOR DICK GARDNER

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: AMGT
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

DEAR MRS. CLINTON,

I HOPE THIS NOTE FINDS YOU WELL. AS YOU KNOW, COMMISSIONER EMMA BONINO, WHO RUNS THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S BILLION DOLLAR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND WHOM YOU MET IN MAY, WILL HOLD A HIGH PROFILE MEETING OF THE LEADERS OF THE MAJOR HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES AND DONORS ON DECEMBER 14, THE EVE OF THE MADRID EU SUMMIT. SINCE SHE FIRST APPROACHED YOU WITH THE IDEA, IT HAS DEVELOPED INTO A MUCH MORE SUBSTANTIVE AND IMPORTANT UNDERTAKING. MRS. BONINO NOW SEES THIS MEETING AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HIGHLIGHT VITAL ASSISTANCE ISSUES WHILE EMPHASIZING THE U.S.-EU PARTNERSHIP.

BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE LARGE PRESS CORPS ASSEMBLED IN MADRID FOR THE EU SUMMIT, THE GATHERING WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE THE CASE FOR DISASTER RELIEF DIRECTLY TO THE PUBLIC, PERHAPS AVERTING THE DONOR FATIGUE THAT HAS AFFLICTED DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. IT WILL ALSO DRAMATIZE THE TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION AT THE CORE OF THE INITIATIVE THE PRESIDENT HAS LAUNCHED IN CONNECTION WITH THE U.S.-EU SUMMIT. THAT SUMMIT, WHICH WE HOPE WILL FOLLOW, ALSO IN MADRID IF HIS SCHEDULE PERMITS, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE EU OWN, IS TO PROMULGATE A "TRANSATLANTIC AGENDA FOR THE 21ST CENTURY," DEFINING A NEW POST COLD WAR PARTNERSHIP IN WHICH U.S.-EU ASSISTANCE COOPERATION WILL BE A MAIN ELEMENT.

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

THE HEADS OF UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, ICRC, DHA, AND QUEEN SOPHIA OF SPAIN, HERSELF ONCE A REFUGEE, WILL BE THE PARTICIPANTS. MRS. BONINO VERY MUCH WANTS YOU TO REPRESENT THE U.S., WHICH, WITH THE EU AND EU MEMBER STATES, , PROVIDES 86 PERCENT OF ALL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. SHE HAS INNOVATIVE IDEAS FOR INVOLVING THE PUBLIC.

I DISCUSSED THIS WITH BRIAN ATWOOD DURING BRIAN'S RECENT TRIP TO BRUSSELS, AND I KNOW THAT HE CONSIDERS IT AS EXCITING A PROSPECT FOR YOU AS I DO. I HOPE THAT YOU WILL FIND IT POSSIBLE TO ATTEND. IT PROMISES TO BE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO HIGHLIGHT BOTH HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S EUROPEAN POLICY GOALS.

THERE WILL BE A PLANNING SESSION IN MID-SEPTEMBER. IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL FOR US TO HAVE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE SUBJECT BY THEN.

WITH WARM REGARDS,

STUART EIZENSTAT
AMBASSADOR

EIZENSTAT
BT
#7923

NNNN
<MSGID> M1785119

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR MAGGIE WILLIAMS

FROM: ANDREW D. SENS ADS

SUBJECT: The First Lady's Trip to Latin America

The First Lady expressed interest in a trip to several Latin American countries this Fall in conjunction with the hemispheric Association of First Ladies meeting in Asuncion, Paraguay. Such a trip could contribute significantly to advancing the Administration's ambitious agenda in the region. Specifically, in each country the First Lady could:

-- Advance implementation of the Summit of the Americas' initiatives regarding health, education and women's rights, especially as they pertain to youth;

-- Promote the three-point agenda derived from the Summit's Symposium on Children of the Americas as outlined in your joint letter with Mrs. Wasmosy to the other First Ladies: eradication of measles, reduction of maternal mortality and girls' and women's education;

-- Visit a wide range of official and non-governmental projects and individuals, who are working in related areas, to increase their visibility and legitimacy.

The First Lady mentioned that the most appropriate countries for her to visit in South America in addition to Paraguay would be Brazil, Chile, Bolivia and Argentina. The NSC staff and State Department agree. Based on our initial planning, the trip would last one week, allowing one day for each country with two days for Brazil and one-day equivalent for travel. If the First Lady's schedule permits, she might also consider a stop in Central America and in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Each of the four proposed countries is immersed in an exciting period of democratic consolidation, "reinventing government" and grassroots activism. This activism has renewed attention in social issues, and the First Lady will find several issues under debate with which she is familiar -- health care and educational reform. She will undoubtedly uncover many opportunities to

strengthen ties between the U.S. and Latin America working in these areas, as well as to forge new linkages for collective action.

In each country, we recommend the First Lady meet with public officials in charge of Summit follow up as well as the three Symposium agenda items. Attached at Tab A is a memo listing illustrative people and projects relevant to the themes of health, education and youth and women. These ideas were proposed by State, USAID, the Inter-American Foundation and several U.S. foundations and NGOs. This is only a first cut and is intended to give Mrs. Clinton a sense of the richness of the Latin American experience in these fields and the tremendous impact that her visit could have in promoting valuable local efforts. Once the First Lady so directs us, we will work with State to develop a more complete and refined agenda for her.

Attachment
Tab A Illustrative Agenda Items for Visit to Latin America

Maggie — should we hold a decision on a First Lady's trip until we are sure that President will go in August. I think the issue is still not undecided.

Andy

FIRST LADY'S TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA
Notional Visits

During a one-week trip to Latin America, the First Lady could visit with the public officials in charge of follow-up for the Summit of the Americas in the areas of health, education and women's rights as well as the related agenda derived from the Summit's Symposium on Children of the Americas (eradication of measles, reduction of maternal mortality, and girls' and women's education). This memo contains initial ideas for visits with particularly successful or innovative people and projects relevant to these themes. These notional ideas were proposed by State, USAID, the Inter-American Foundation, the Inter-American Development Bank and several U.S. foundations and other non-governmental organizations. The countries covered include Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Bolivia.

BRAZIL

Brasilia

-- President Cardoso has made educational reform a priority. The Minister of Education, Paulo Renato de Souza, is a professional educator and strong minister, formerly Vice-president for Administration at Inter-American Development Bank.

-- Dr. Ruth Cardoso, wife of the President, is a professor of urban anthropology who has long had a commitment to the substance of social policy and is an advocate of many issues relating to women and children. Currently director of "Council on Community Solidarity."

-- The national headquarters of the National Street Children's Movement would be a natural place to visit.

Rio de Janeiro

People to Meet:

-- Jacqueline Pintanguay, one of the most articulate of Brazil's women leaders; fluent in English. She has served on many panels related to social issues in the U.S. and was first director of the Women's Council in Brazil. She leads CEPIA, an NGO based in Rio favelas, which focuses on women's and children's health issues and reproductive health issues.

-- Herbert de Souza (Betinho), who began the Anti-Hunger Campaign in Brazil and is helping change the entire

cultural climate in support of grassroots community activity. (See below)

-- Eva Blay, Sao Paulo social activist and long-time women's advocate. She took over Fernando Henrique Cardoso's Senate seat for a period.

-- Congresswoman Benedita da Silva, an Afro-Brazilian elected from the slums of Rio de Janeiro, supports major initiatives to improve the education and health of poor women and children. (see below)

Health:

-- One of Mrs. Pitanguay's projects in Rio favelas. One possibility is a health or reproductive health project. Second option is a visit to the government (police) program, started when Mrs. Pitanguay was in government, to shelter women victims of violence and combat domestic violence.

Children:

-- The Inter-American Development Bank has two excellent programs in Rio and Salvador focusing on favelas. NGOs are developing and running major day care programs, focusing especially on street children.

Sao Paulo

-- The Archbishop of Sao Paulo, Dom Paulo Evaristo Arns, has worked in health and social issues for many years.

-- GELEDEZ, a women's Afro-Brazilian group in Sao Paulo, focuses on Afro-Brazilian issues and has just won a struggle with a major television corporation to portray blacks more realistically. This program works with women's health issues and is supported by the MacArthur Foundation and Ford Foundation.

Salvador

Meetings with Women and NGO leaders:

-- The mayor of Salvador, Mrs. Lidice da Matta, could be invited to accompany Mrs. Clinton. She knows Project Axe well (See Below).

-- Evaldo Brito, President of the Binational Center in Salvador is a leading Afro-Brazilian politician who has previously served as mayor and as the state's Secretary

of Education, Health and Welfare. Mrs. Clinton could meet with him and tour classrooms and the library.

Education:

-- Project Axe is a highly successful project that reaches thousands of street children, many of them abandoned, focusing on education, job training and family reintegration.

-- Visit CECUP, the Centro de Educacao e Cultural Popular, an innovative program that has supported a large network of 65 "alternative schools" for 10,000 low income children and youth. With no access to primary education, parents began organizing their own schools in the 1970s. (In Salvador, it is estimated that 220,000 school-age children do not attend school.) CECUP works with neighborhood associations, community public schools and teachers associations. The schools are built with materials and labor donated by the community. They recruit teachers from the community. The state government is now turning to CECUP for educational ideas.

Other:

-- A visit to Pelourinho, the recently restored historic center and former slave market of Salvador. UNESCO has designated it as part of the world's cultural heritage, and it is a source of cultural pride to the racially mixed population. (Brazil imported more slaves from Africa than the rest of the New World combined, primarily to work in sugar cane plantations in the northeast.) AID might be able to arrange a concert and discussion with the Black enpowerment/musical group "Olodum." Its director is a 1995 USIS international visitor's program recipient.

-- Environmental possibilities. Sea Turtle Protection Project: Visit Project Tamar, a protected turtle nesting beach about one hour's drive from Salvador on Praia da Forte. Conservation of the Mata Atlantica Forest: Located about 500 miles south of Salvador, this AID supported project focuses on conserving the remnants of the Mata Atlantica Forest, including a number of endangered species.

CHILE

Meetings with Women Leaders and NGO leaders:

-- Chile has been a leader in educational reform and is considered, even by other Latin American countries, as something of a laboratory for innovative social reform by government and NGO groups. It has a strong commitment to advancing women's issues with a specific Ministry of Women (Ministerio de la Mujer).

-- Mrs. Frei, wife of the President, works with INTEGRA, a group that supports children's and poverty alleviation programs through Chile. There are many possibilities for meetings and visits here.

-- Monica Jimenez and Laura Novoa Vasquez, President and Chair of PARTICIPA, a Chilean NGO, which has organized Chilean voter registration drives and public education campaigns focusing particularly on women and youth since the 1988 plebiscite. PARTICIPA also provides guidance to other NGOs around the world. It is currently supported by AID and could organize a meeting of NGO women civic and political leaders.

-- Two Ministers are women, both considered strong and competent leaders: the Minister for Women and the Minister for Patrimonial Nacional.

-- Maria Elena Ovalle leads FINAM (Finanzas de la Mujer), a Chilean NGO affiliated with the Woman's World Bank. It provides micro-enterprise loans and technical support to Chilean women entrepreneurs and could organized a meeting with Chilean women enterprise leaders. Formerly funded by AID.

-- The Ministry of Justice and NGOs are beginning to highlight the problems of family violence. New legislation and training are being piloted. A meeting with Chilean NGOs and government could be arranged.

-- Maria Elena Valenzuela, an NGO leader who designed SERNAM's program for poor women heads of households and single mothers (see below).

Education:

-- The Chilean government has two very innovative education projects. The first, MECE, is run by Sergio Molina through the Ministry of Education and is a major reform to improve primary school throughout the country. The project coordinator is Cristian Cox. The

second is the "900 schools" project from the Ministry, which seeks to strengthen the 900 poorest schools in the country through a series of innovative programs.

-- CIDE is an excellent NGO working exclusively in the area of education, whose President is Patricio Cariola, a Jesuit. He could best identify the specific CIDE projects appropriate to visit. AID suggests visiting a particular CIDE project which it funded: an innovative pilot high school in Santiago. Students, parents and faculty can demonstrate the impact that competency-based education (based on the U.S. model) is having in Chile.

Health and Welfare:

-- Visit the reproductive health clinic in Huechuraba, Santiago, under the direction of Soledad Diaz (ICMER). The clinic provides integrated family planning and MCH services to poor women.

-- Visit SERNAM's program for poor women heads of households and single mothers. Meet with Maria Elena Valenzuela, who designed the program, and plan a visit to a program in one of the provincial cities.

-- The Ministry of Health has opened over 50 24-hour a day primary clinics in poor parts of the country, supported by an AID grant. A visit to one in the outskirts of Santiago could be arranged.

-- Visit the adolescent pregnancy/reproductive health program of Dr. Ramiro Molina at the School of Medicine, University of Chile.

Women's Organizations:

-- PARTICIPA focuses on the development of women as leaders. It originated in a voter education project during the plebiscite movement to defeat General Pinochet. Its head, Monica Jimenez, was Dean of Social Work at the Catholic University and was part of the Bishops' conference on social policy. She can identify an appropriate site visit.

Other:

-- Access to Justice. The government's Corporacion de Asistencia Judicial provides one-stop social and legal services to the poor. AID, through a Chilean NGO, CPU, supports this effort. A meeting in downtown Santiago could be arranged.

-- Environmental NGO led by Ximena Abogabir, CASA DE LA PAZ, fosters public participation, particularly of women and youth, in environmental issues. It provides educational materials, organizational training and technical orientation. LA CASA could organize a meeting of environmental NGOs.

BOLIVIA

Women and NGO Leaders:

-- Lidia Catari de Cardenas, wife of the Vice-President, is a respected, indigenous woman with strong links to educational programs, particularly focusing on female education and bilingual education. She is a former teacher and education specialist and heads Organizacion de Mujeres.

-- Sonia Montano, Under Secretary for Gender in the Department of Human Development, is an excellent source of information and expertise on women's issues.

Education:

-- Innovative bilingual education program (see above).

Health and Welfare:

-- Child Care: visit the World Bank-financed government child care project that provides employment to women child care takers in Bolivian cities.

-- In Inquisivi Province, visit the Save the Children's project that provides MCH services and credit to very poor women (the WARMI WCI project). Inquisivo is one of the poorest provinces in the Bolivian highlands, among a spectacular landscape.

Other:

-- An excellent credit program to visit is Prodem, a credit NGO, and the Banco sul, a commerical bank which provides very small loans for about 75,000 micro-entrepreneurs, most of them women.

ARGENTINA

Meetings with Women and NGO Leadership:

-- Meeting with women legislators, including Ana de Kessler, Marcela Durriu and Christina Flamarique. By

law, one third of Congressional candidates must be women.

-- Marta Oyhanarate: president of Citizen Power, an NGO working on democracy and human rights issues.

-- The Ministry of Education has a new commitment to educational reform. Two highly competent women have high positions in the Ministry, Ines Aguerrondo and Cecilia Braslawsky. Both come out of the NGO community and are involved in reform issues.

Health and Welfare:

-- FOC (Fundacion de Organizacion Comunitaria, 1989), was founded by volunteer health promoters in 22 poor neighborhoods in the municipal district of Lomas de Zamora; it now works with 250 women community health volunteers. Projects include, among others, vaccination programs, child care for working mothers and recreational opportunities for teenagers.

-- SUM-CNA (Servicio Universitario Mundial-Comite Nacional Argentino) began in 1988 to work with neighborhood organizations in Buenos Aires to develop community health care, skills training, etc., with international assistance from many European groups. The Inter-American Foundation is now helping support day care services.

Other:

-- The Inter-American Foundation (IAF) recommended two of its projects in Cordoba. One is a highly successful coalition of low-income urban community organizations representing over 12,000 families, working in a variety of community development organizations (land acquisition, basic services), the Union de Organizaciones de Base por los Derechos Sociales (UOBDS). The second, Servicio en Promocion Humana (SERVIPROH), also works in community organization and development and now has an IAF grant to work with poor families in the area.

ORIGIN: POL-1
INFO: TOTAL-9 DAO-1 ORA-1 ECON-1 RSO-1 DCM-1 USIS-1 CONS-1 MILG-1
AMB-1

DISTRIBUTION: POL
CHARGE: PROG
APPROVED: AMB:WPRYCE
DRAFTED: POL:ARUTLEDGE:105
CLEARED: DCM:DSCHWARTZ/POL:DADAMSON,RSUAREZ

AR
Thom
KSUM

VZCZCTGI761
RR RUEHC RUEADWW
DE RUEHTG #0122 0221306
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 221306Z JAN 96
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0288
INFO RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
BT
UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 000122

STATE ALSO FOR ARA/SCO, ARA/CEN
WHITE HOUSE FOR MRS. CLINTON

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KSUM, HO
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM HONDURAN FIRST LADY TO MRS. CLINTON

1. FOLLOWING IS AN EMBASSY UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF A LETTER WE RECEIVED FROM HONDURAN FIRST LADY BESSIE WATSON DE REINA TO MRS. CLINTON IN RESPONSE TO MRS. CLINTON'S NOVEMBER 21 LETTER RECALLING THE ASUNCION CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN FIRST LADIES. WE WILL POUCH THE ORIGINAL TO ARA/SCO FOR FORWARDING TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

TEGUCIGALPA, JANUARY 16, 1996

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
FIRST LADY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEAR MRS. CLINTON:

IT WAS A PLEASURE TO RECEIVE YOUR GRACIOUS LETTER IN WHICH YOU HAD THE KINDNESS AND CONSIDERATION TO REMEMBER OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS, AS WELL AS THE ADVANCES ACHIEVED BY MY COUNTRY IN CHILDREN'S IMMUNIZATIONS AND THE CONTROL OF MEASLES. I AGREE WITH YOU IN REGARDS TO THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT WE AS FIRST LADIES SHOULD ASSUME IN SUPPORT OF OUR RESPECTIVE NATIONS' SOCIAL PROGRAMS. MAINTAINING A PERMANENT DIALOGUE WILL HELP US IN THE VERY

VALUABLE INTERCHANGE OF IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES.

AS PART OF THAT INTERCHANGE, I FOUND THAT IN YOUR EXCELLENT PARTICIPATION IN THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS IN THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE UNITED NATION'S FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, YOU ADDRESSED HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE EXPERIENCE OF WOMEN THAT MERIT, AS CALLED FOR BY ALL OF HUMANITY, EFFORTS AND POLICIES ON A WORLD SCALE. FOR THAT REASON, I REPEAT YOUR WORDS: "TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF NEW HEIGHTS OF DIGNITY AND RESPECT FOR THE WOMEN AND GIRLS OF THE ENTIRE WORLD; AND IN SO DOING, TO STRENGTHEN AND STABILIZE OUR FAMILIES." WE WILL GIVE THE CONTENT OF THAT MESSAGE A WIDE DIFFUSION AMONG THE WOMEN OF HONDURAS. I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER IN A JOINT EFFORT.

ACCEPT THE RENEWED ASSURANCE OF MY HIGHEST AND MOST DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION.

BESSIE WATSON DE REINA
FIRST LADY OF HONDURAS

END TEXT.

PRYCE
BT
#0122

NNNN{{{{{{{{{{{

file S. Amer

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Tegucigalpa, January 16, 1996

Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States of America

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

It was a pleasure to receive your gracious letter in which you had the kindness and consideration to remember our participation in the Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, as well as the advances achieved by my country in children's immunizations and the control of measles. I agree with you in regards to the important role that we as First Ladies should assume in support of our respective nations' social programs. Maintaining a permanent dialogue will help us in the very valuable interchange of ideas and experiences.

As part of that interchange, I found that in your excellent participation in the Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government, as well as in the plenary session of the United Nation's Fourth World Conference on Women, you addressed historical and social aspects of the experience of women that merit, as called for by all of humanity, efforts and policies on a world scale. For that reason, I repeat your words: "To contribute to the achievement of new heights of dignity and respect for the women and girls of the entire world; and in so doing, to strengthen and stabilize our families." We will give the content of that message a wide diffusion among the women of Honduras. I am confident that we will continue to work together in a joint effort.

Accept the renewed assurance of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

Bessie Watson de Reina
First Lady of Honduras

Presidencia de la República

Honduras, C. A.

Tegucigalpa, 16 de enero de 1996

Señora
Hillary Rodham Clinton
Primera Dama de Los
Estados Unidos de América.

Estimada Señora Clinton:

Ha sido muy agradable para mí recibir su atenta comunicación en la cual , tiene la gentileza de recordar nuestra participación en la Quinta Conferencia de Esposas de Jefes de Estado y Gobierno, así como los avances que en mí país hemos logrado en el control del Sarampión y en la vacunación infantil; estoy de acuerdo con usted en cuanto al importante papel que como Primeras Damas debemos asumir en apoyo de los programas sociales de nuestras respectivas Naciones, la posibilidad de mantener un dialogo permanente nos ayuda en el intercambio de ideas y experiencias que son de mucho valor.

Como parte de ese intercambio de ideas encuentro que a través de su excelente participación en la Quinta Conferencia de Esposas de Jefes de Estado y Gobierno , asi como en la Sesión Plenaria de la Cuarta Conferencia Mundial de las Naciones Unidas Sobre La Mujer, abordó aspectos históricos y sociales de la Mujer que ameritan de esfuerzos y políticas a nivel mundial que son un reclamo de toda la humanidad, y por ello cito sus palabras cuando dice" Aportar nueva dignidad y respeto a las mujeres y a las niñas de todo el mundo; y, al hacerlo aportar también más fortaleza y estabilidad a nuestras familias".A este mensaje por su contenido le daremos una amplia difusión entre las mujeres de Honduras. Confiando en que continuemos trabajando en este esfuerzo conjunto.

Me es grato suscribirme con muestras de consideración y estima.

Bessie W de Reina

Bessie Watson de Reina
Primera Dama de Honduras



Presidencia de la República

Honduras, C. A.

Señora
Hillary Rodham Clinton
Primera Dama de los
Estados Unidos de América
Su Despacho

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

Date: January 23, 1996

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)	Initials	Date
1. ARA/SCO -- Darrell Jenks		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

Attached is the letter we received from Honduran First Lady Bessie Watson de Reina to Mrs. Clinton in response to Mrs. Clinton's November 21 letter recalling the Asuncion conference of American first ladies.

Please forward to the White House for Mrs. Clinton. Thanks.

Alvin

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)	Room No.—Bldg.
Alvin Rutledge Embassy Tegucigalpa	Phone No. ext. 2222

5041-102

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1984 O - 431-986 (346)

PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED

INCOMING

ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

PAGE 01 OF 02 ASUNCI 02208 00 OF 03 261956Z 001407 S006072
ACTION: DYPA (01)

INFO: RJ (01) RSC (01) FAC (01) BSC (01) DBSC (01) ARA (01) PPC (01)
OAS (01) PPA (01) PDAS (01) SCD (02) EX (01) PMO (01) AR (01)
- 27/1836Z A2 RD (TOTAL COPIES: 016)

ACTION ARA-00

INFO LOG-00 ACDA-17 ACDE-00 AMAD-01 A-00 CIAE-00 OASY-00
DODE-00 DOEE-00 SRPP-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 L-00
ADS-00 M-00 NSAE-00 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-00 PRS 01
P-01 SP-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00 USSS-00
PMB-00 DRL-05 G-00 /035W
----------039848 261951Z /38

P 261945Z JUN 95
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4828
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS ASUNCION 002208

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREL, OVIP (CLINTON, HILLARY RODHAM), PA
SUBJECT: REVISED AGENDA FOR FIFTH CONFERENCE OF SPOUSES OF CHIEFS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENTS OF THE AMERICAS

REF: ASUNCION 1956

1. ACTION REQUEST IN PARAGRAPH 5.

2. AT A JUNE 22 MEETING WITH THE INTER AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC CORPS, LEILA RACHID LICHI, TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO PARAGUAYAN FIRST LADY TERESA CARRASCO DE WASMOSY, PRESENTED A REVISED AGENDA FOR THE JULY 3-7 FIRST LADIES SUMMIT PREPARATORY CONFERENCE. THE REVISED AGENDA IS AT PARAGRAPH 3. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT MS. NICOLE RABNER FROM THE WHITE HOUSE AND MS. LILIANA AYALDE FROM USAID WILL BE COMING TO ASUNCION TO ATTEND THE PREPCON. EMBASSY'S SUGGESTED JULY 3 SCHEDULE FOR THE TWO IS AT PARAGRAPH 4.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF DRAFT AGENDA:

TECHNICAL PREPARATORY MEETING
THE HEALTH AND THE EDUCATION OF THE WOMAN AND THE CHILDREN
ASUNCION PARAGUAY - 3-7 OF JULY, 1995
DRAFT AGENDA

MONDAY, JULY 3

PLACE: YACHT AND GOLF CLUB PARAGUAYO
MORNING AND AFTERNOON: ARRIVAL AND PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY THE DELEGATIONS. PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS.

19:30 WELCOME COCKTAIL AT THE PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE "MBURUVICHA ROGA"

TUESDAY, JULY 4

0900 OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH

0930 SETTING UP THE MEETING

ASUNCI 02208 00 OF 03 261956Z 001407 S006072

-- FIRST WORKING SESSION: THEME: "WOMAN'S HEALTH"

1. PROJECT ON "PREVENTION OF PRECOCIOUS PREGNANCY"
   A. EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT PRESENTED BY A UN REPRESENTATIVE
   B. DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST LADIES WHO WILL REFER TO THE PROJECT DURING THE CONFERENCE

1230 COFFEE BREAK

1345 2. PROJECT ON MATERNAL MORTALITY
   A. ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONAL PROBLEMS BY UNICEF AND PAHO REPRESENTATIVES
   B. DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST LADIES WHO WILL REFER TO THE PROJECT DURING THE CONFERENCE

1300 LUNCH AT THE YACHT AND GOLF CLUB PARAGUAYO

1500 3. PROGRAM: "LATIN AMERICA AGAINST CANCER"
   A. EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM BY DIRECTOR DR. RICARDO ALBA
   B. DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST LADIES WHO WILL REFER TO THE SUBJECT DURING THE CONFERENCE
   C. ADAPTING THE PROGRAM TO THE REGION

1615 COFFEE BREAK

1630 SECOND WORKING SESSION
THEME: "EDUCATION - TRAINING OF THE WOMAN"

1. PROJECT IDB-IICA (INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION) ON "WOMAN OF THE COUNTRY PRODUCING FOOD:" EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY IICA CONSULTANT

1730 2. PROJECT "PROMOTION OF THE WOMAN PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY," INTRODUCTION BY THE IDB REPRESENTATIVE, PRESENTATION BY LIC. CELINA CUDAS, GENERAL COORDINATOR

2000 DINNER FREE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

THIRD WORKING SESSION
THEME: "CHILDREN'S HEALTH"

0900 PROJECT ON "PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE BY STREET CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAS"
   A. PROJECT EVALUATION
   B. DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST LADIES WHO WILL REFER TO THE TOPIC DURING THE CONFERENCE
   C. ADAPTING THE PROJECT TO THE REGION

1000 2. PROJECT ON "ERADICATION OF MEASLES AND IMMUNIZATION DURING CHILDHOOD IN THE AMERICAS
   A. PRESENTATION BY THE PAHO REPRESENTATIVE
   B. DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST LADIES WHO WILL REFER TO THE TOPIC DURING THE CONFERENCE

1100 COFFEE BREAK

1115 FOURTH WORKING SESSION
THEME: "CHILDREN'S EDUCATION"
REGIONAL PROJECT ON "SCHOOLING FOR GIRLS"
A. PROJECT PRESENTATION
B. DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST LADIES WHO WILL REFER

UNCLASSIFIED

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

TO: Melanne Verveer, OFL
Richard Feinberg, NSC
Mark Schneider, USAID

FROM: Nicole Rabner, OFL
Liliana Ayalde, USAID

DATE: June 29, 1995

SUBJECT: Plans for Preparatory Meeting in Asuncion, July 3-8

We will arrive in Asuncion on July 3rd and are scheduled to meet with U.S. Ambassador Robert E. Service briefly before meeting with Leila Rachid, Technical Advisor to Mrs. Wasmosy.

Our goal for this trip is to work with Laila to define Mrs. Clinton's participation in the October conference. There are several issues that we will raise with her:

1. While the October conference is scheduled to take place between October 16-20th, Mrs. Clinton will participate in approximately one full day. We will work with Leila to structure the day according to Mrs. Clinton's areas of interest.

2. Based on our ongoing working group meetings, we will propose that Mrs. Clinton's participation be focused on follow-up to the Summit of the Americas' children's health and education initiatives, women's empowerment and microenterprise. She may also want to participate in the discussion of the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women.

3. We hope that our discussions will result in one full day for Mrs. Clinton's participation and will include a chance for her to address a plenary session and to lead or participate in appropriate working groups.

4. We will indicate to Mrs. Wasmosy's staff that Mrs. Clinton has an interest in visiting appropriate sites during her stay in Asuncion that are linked to women's and children's issues, but that she would not want to detract from the conference itself. We will suggest that time be allotted for such visits.

5. We plan to get a sense of if or how the planned Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State, which will take place in Bariloche, Argentina, October 18-19th, will impact the First Ladies' Conference.

6. At the end of the preparatory meeting, we will be asked to comment and concur on the Asuncion October conference declaration. We will be in touch for appropriate clearance.

Our principle contact at the Embassy is the DCM, Mr. Jerry McCollough, who plans to accompany us during this preparatory meeting. We can be reached through him (call WH Signal Operator 202/757-5000 and asked to be connected to the U.S. Embassy in Paraguay) or at our hotel, the Paraguayan Yacht and Golf Club:

ph (595 21) 36-117
36-121
36-161

fax (595 21) 36 120
36 132
36 133.

PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED

INCOMING

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

TO THE TOPIC DURING THE CONFERENCE

1300 LUNCH FREE

1500 FIFTH WORKING SESSION
THEME: "FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE WOMAN"
A. PARTICIPATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS REPRESENTATIVE
B. DESIGNATION OF ONE FIRST LADY WHO WILL REFER TO THE TOPIC DURING THE CONFERENCE

1530 THEME: "INTER AMERICAN CONVENTION TO PREVENT, PENALIZE AND ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN" (BELEN D PARA CONVENTION)
A. OAS REPRESENTATIVE PARTICIPATION
B. ANALYSIS BY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

1600 THEME: "REGIONAL PROGRAM ON VIOLENCE AGAINST

WOMEN" ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SUPERVISION NETWORK
A. PRESENTATIONS BY PAHO AND IDB REPRESENTATIVES
B. DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST LADIES WHO WILL REFER TO THE TOPIC DURING THE CONFERENCE

1700 COFFEE BREAK

1715 THEME: "UN CONVENTION IF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS" (NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 20, 1989) RECOMMENDATIONS BY UNICEF REPRESENTATIVE

1800 THEME: "INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS" PRESENTATION BY DRA. LEILA RACHID LICHI, PRO-TEMPORE SECRETARY OF THE FIFTH CONFERENCE

1830 THEME: "PERIODICITY OF THE CONFERENCES" DISCUSSION

1900 THEME: "CONFIRMATION OF THE LOCATION FOR THE 6TH. CONFERENCE AND SLECTION OF THE LOCATION FOR THE 7TH CONFERENCE

2000 DINNER FREE

THURSDAY, JULY 6

0900 SIXTH WORKING SESSION
THEME: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS' "POLICY AND STRATEGY TENDENCIES FOR THE WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2000"
1. SPOKESMAN OF EACH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION.

NO MORE THAN 50 MINUTES EACH
A. QUESTIONS BY FIRST LADIES

1015 COFFEE BREAK
1100 THEME: "ANALYSIS OF THE DECLARATION OF ASUNCION PROJECT"
A. PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENT
B. DISCUSSION

1300 LUNCH FREE

1500 SEVENTH WORKING SESSION
TO THEME: "ANALYSIS OF THE DECLARATION OF ASUNCION
1800 PROJECT"
A. ACCEPTANCE OF DOCUMENT
B. DISCUSSION

ASUNCI 02208 00 OF 03 261950Z 001487 S088072

2000 FAREWELL RECEPTION

FRIDAY, JULY 7

0900 INTRODUCTION OF THE OFFICIAL CHAIR PERSON FOR THE FIRST LADIES OF EACH RESPECTIVE DELEGATION PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS TO THE DELEGATIONS EXPLANATION ABOUT THE PROTOCOL AND LOGISTIC ASPECTS OF THE 5TH CONFERENCE

1000 VISIT TO THE CENTRAL BANK CONVENTION CENTER, LOCATION OF THE 5TH CONFERENCE AND CLOSING CEREMONY

1200 LUNCH FREE

1700 DEPARTURE OF DELEGATIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 8

DEPARTURE OF DELEGATIONS

4. EMBASSY'S SUGGESTED JULY 3 SCHEDULE FOR MS. RABNER AND MS. AYALDE FOLLOWS:

1058 ARRIVAL ON AMERICAN AIRLINES

1130 DEPART AIRPORT FOR EMBASSY (TRANSPORT PROVIDED BY EMBASSY)

1200 MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR

1230 DEPART FOR YACHT AND COUNTRY CLUB (TRANSPORT PROVIDED BY EMBASSY)

1300 CHECK IN AT YACHT AND COUNTRY CLUB

1600 MEETING WITH LEILA RACHID LICHI, TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO THE PARAGUAYAN FIRST LADY (REQUESTED BY MS. RACHID)

REMAINDER OF SCHEDULE FOLLOWS AGENDA FOR THE PREPCON.

5. ACTION REQUEST: EMBASSY REQUESTS PROMPT CONFIRMATION OF USDEL COMPOSITION VIA COUNTRY CLEARANCE REQUEST. WE

WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE A RESPONSE/COMMENTS TO THE SUGGESTED SCHEDULE SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH 4. END ACTION REQUEST.
SERVICE

UNCLASSIFIED

MACK McLARTY

July 7, 1995

To: Maggie Williams
Melanne Verveer
Lisa Caputo
Patti Solis

I would appreciate it if you would discuss the attached with me before making a decision. I will be in Latin America (including Brazil) until July 13.

Thank you.

Mack /pm

DICTATED BUT NOT READ

BRAZILIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE AMBASSADOR

Nº 617

July 5, 1995

Mr. Thomas F. McLarty
Counselor to the President
The White House

My dear Mack,

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter that I sent to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton today. President and Mrs. Cardoso are hopeful that Mrs. Clinton will be able to find time in her busy schedule to stop in Brazil in connection with her mid-October trip to Paraguay.

We would be most pleased to accommodate the First Lady's wishes in terms of scheduling and arrangements, including if there is a place in Brazil (in addition to Brasília) that she would especially like to visit. When we talk I can suggest some options that she might find useful and enjoyable.

The invitation is for an official visit. Ruth Cardoso would also be most pleased to host Chelsea as well, if she is free to accompany Mrs. Clinton for the Brazil portion of the trip.

I would be pleased to discuss these possibilities with you later this week, before I depart Washington for three weeks. If this week does not prove convenient for you, the staff in my office will always be able to reach me on short notice by telephone or fax.

Enjoyed seeing you [illegible]

Yours [illegible]

Paulo-Tarso Flecha de Lima

BRAZILIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE AMBASSADOR

Nº 618

July 5th, 1995

The Honorable
Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

I have the high honor and distinct privilege, on behalf of Mrs. Ruth Cardoso, to convey to you an invitation to visit Brazil next October, either enroute to the First Ladies' Meeting in Paraguay, or on your way back from Asunción.

Mrs. Cardoso was most delighted with the productive and enjoyable conversations she held with you on her recent visit to the United States in April. There are many areas of common concern that she would like to explore and develop with you, particularly concerning social issues relevant to our countries.

If you agree with the idea, my staff would be in touch with yours to discuss the scheduling and programming arrangements for your visit. I would be greatly honored to contribute to the success of such a visit in any way that I might.

Yours sincerely,

Paulo-Tarso Flecha de Lima

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PRT: FIRST LADY
SIT: ARMSTRONG BASSETT NSC

<PREC> PRIORITY <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 121850Z JUL 95

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4986
INFO RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 ASUNCION 002401

E.O. 12356
TAGS: PREL, OVIP (CLINTON, HILLARY RUDHAM), PA
SUBJECT: PROPOSED "DECLARATION OF ASUNCION" AT THE FIRST LADIES SUMMIT OCTOBER 16-20

REF: ASUNCION 2362

1. THIS IS AN ACTION CABLE. SEE PARAGRAPH 3.

2. THE ORIGINAL SPANISH LANGUAGE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED "DECLARATION OF ASUNCION" IS AT PARAGRAPH FOUR. AN UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION IS AT PARAGRAPH FIVE. THE ANNEX TO THE DECLARATION IS BEING FAXED TO ARA/BSC BOB BENSON. MS. NICOLE RABNER OF THE WHITE HOUSE FIRST LADIES STAFF ALREADY HAS A COPY OF THE DECLARATION AND ANNEX.

3. PLEASE REVIEW DOCUMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE WHITE HOUSE AND KINDLY OFFER ANY SUGGESTED CHANGES BY SEPTEMBER 15, THE DEADLINE SET BY SUMMIT ORGANIZERS FOR MODIFICATIONS.

4. BEGIN SPANISH LANGUAGE TEXT: NOSOTRAS, LAS ESPOSAS DE JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO Y REPRESENTANTES DE GOBIERNO Y DE PRIMERAS DAMAS DE LAS AMERICAS, REUNIDAS EN LA CIUDAD DE ASUNCION, CAPITAL DE LA REPUBLICA DEL PARAGUAY, ENTRE LOS DIAS 16 AL 20 DE OCTUBRE DE 1995, A FIN DE INTERCAMBIAR IDEAS SOBRE EL ESTADO DE "LA SALUD Y LA EDUCACION DE LA MUJER Y DE LOS NINOS" EN NUESTRA REGION, EN SEGUIMIENTO DE LA 4TA. CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS DE JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO DE LAS AMERICAS REALIZADA EN SANTA LUCIA DEL 11 AL 13 DE OCTUBRE DE 1994 Y DEL SIMPOSIO SOBRE LOS NINOS DE LAS AMERICAS LLEVADO A CABO EN MIAMI EL 10 DE DICIEMBRE ULTIMO PASADO.

MANIFESTAMOS NUSTRA VOLUNTAD DE PROSEGUIR, CON ESTE SISTMA DE CONFERENCIAS PARA EMPRENDER Y PROMOVER ACCIONES, PROGRAMAS Y PROYECTOS EN EL PLANO NACIONAL Y REGIONAL EN PRO DEL DESARROLLO Y BIENESTAR DE NUESTRAS NACIONES, TENIENDO EN CUENTA QUE LOS PROBLEMAS QUE NOS AFECTAN SON COMUNES.

DE ACUERDO A ESTAS CONSIDERACIONES, DECLARAMOS:

1. ORIENTAR LOS PLANES DE ACCION EN MATERIA DE SALUD Y EDUCACION DE LA MUJER Y DE LA NINEZ, BAJO LOS PRINCIPIOS DE: DESARROLLO INTEGRAL, EQUIDAD, DEMOCRATIZACION DE LA INFORMACION Y EL CONOCIMIENTO, PARTICIPACION FAMILIAR Y SOCIAL.

2. MEJORAR EL ESTADO DE LA SALUD DE LA MUJER Y LA NINEZ, FAVORECIENDO LA UNIVERSALIZACION Y EXCELENCIA DE LOS SERVICIOS DE SALUD.

3. INSTAR A QUE LAS ESTRATEGIAS Y ACTIVIDADES EN TORNO A LA SALUD Y EDUCACION DE LA MUJER Y LA NINEZ DEN PRIORIDAD A LA PROBLACION DE AREAS RURALES Y URBANO-MARGINALES DE ESCASOS RECURSOS.

4. PROMOVER Y APOYAR LA IMPLEMENTACION A NIVEL NACIONAL DE LOS ACUERDOS Y RECOMENDACIONES DE LA CUMBRE MUNDIAL EN FAVOR DE LA MUJER Y LA INFANCIA, LA CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL SOBRE POBLACION Y DESARROLLO, LA CUMBRE MUNDIAL SOBRE DESARROLLO SOCIAL Y LA IV CONFERENCIA MUNDIAL SOBRE LA MUJER.

5. PROMOVER EL ACCESO DE LAS NINAS Y LAS MUJERES A LOS PROGRAMAS DE ALFABETIZACION Y DE EDUCACION FUNCIONAL E INTEGRAL QUE LES PERMITA PARTICIPAR EN EL DESARROLLO CON IGUALDAD DE OPORTUNIDADES.

6. PROCURAR QUE LAS POLITICAS DE DESARROLLO CONTEMPLEN LAS NECESIDADES ESPECIFICAS DE LAS MUJERES DEL SECTOR, MEJORANDO LOS MECANISMOS QUE FACILITEN SU INCORPORACION AL PROCESO PRODUCTIVO Y A LOS BENEFICIOS DEL DESARROLLO.

7. APOYAR A LAS INSTITUCIONES NACIONALES PERTINENTES PARA ADOPTAR MEDIDAS TENDIENTES A DISMINUIR LA REPITENCIA Y DESERCION ESCOLAR Y A DEFINIR ESTRATEGIAS METODOLOGICAS QUE COADYUVEN AL MEJORAMIENTO DE LA CALIDAD DE LA EDUCACION Y LA AMPLIACION DE LA COBERTURA

DE LA EDUCACION INICIAL.

8. PROMOVER PROYECTOS QUE CONTRIBUYAN AL INCREMENTO DE LA ESCOLARIZACION DE LAS NINAS Y MUJERES DEL CONTINENTE Y LA DISMINUCION DE LA DESERCION ESCOLAR FEMENINA, YA QUE LA INVERSION SOCIAL EN LA EDUCACION DE LAS NINAS RINDE UN BENFECIO MAYOR PARA MEJORAR LA SALUD, PRODUCTIVIDAD, EL BIENESTAR FAMILIA
R, LA PARTICIPACION
DEMOCRATICA, EL DESARROLLO HUMANO Y LA PAZ.

ADICIONALMENTE LAS ESPOSAS DE JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO DE LAS AMERICAS ACORDAMOS EXPRESAR:

NUESTRO AGRADECIMIENTO A LOS ORGANISMOS INTERNACIONALES Y OTRAS ENTIDADES, POR EL INTERES Y APOYO MAINIFESTADO
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 ASUNCION 002401

E.O. 12356
TAGS: PREL, OVIP (CLINTON, HILLARY RUDHAM), PA
SUBJECT: PROPOSED "DECLARATION OF ASUNCION" AT THE FIRST LADIES SUMMIT OCTOBER 16-20

A ESTAS CONFERENCIAS DE ESPOSAS DE JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO DE LAS AMERICAS.

CELEBRAR EN 1996 LA 6TA. CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS DE JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO DE LAS AMERICAS EN LA REPUBLICA DE BOLIVIA, ACORDAR LA REALIZACION DE LA 7MA. CONFERENCIA EN LA REPUBLICA DE PANAMA E INTEGRAR LA NUEVA SECRETARIA PRO-TEMPORE CON LOS DESPACHOS DE LAS PRIMERAS DAMAS DE BOLIVIA, PARAGUAY Y PANAMA.

PARRAFO PROTOCOLAR

FIRMADO EN ASUNCION, CAPITAL DE LA REPUBLICA DEL PARAGUAY, A LOS VEINTE DIAS DEL OCTUBRE DEL ANO MIL NOVECIENTOS NOVENTA Y CINCO.

5. EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

WE, THE WIVES OF CHIEFS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS AND FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS, GATHERED IN THE CITY OF ASUNCION, CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY, FROM THE 16TH TO THE 20TH OF OCTOBER, 1995, TO EXCHANGE IDEAS ON THE "HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN" OF OUR REGION,

FOLLOWING THE 4TH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF CHIEFS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS, HELD IN SANTA LUCIA FROM THE LLTH TO THE 13TH OF OCTOBER, 1994, AND THE SYMPOSIUM OF

CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAS HELD IN MIAMI ON DECEMBER 10 OF LAST YEAR.

WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR WILL TO CONTINUE WITH THIS SYSTEM OF CONFERENCES TO CARRY OUT AND PROMOTE ACTIONS, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, AT A LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND WELL BEING OF OUR NATIONS, CONSIDERING THAT E HAVE PROBLEMS IN COMMON.

BASED ON THESE CONSIDERATIONS, WE DECLARE OUR EFFORT:

1. TO DIRECT THE ACTION PLANS FOR HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN UNDER THE PRINCIPLES OF INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT, EQUALITY, DEMOCRATIZATION OF INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE, FAMILY AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION.

2. TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, FAVORING THE UNIVERSALIZATION AND EXCELLENCE OF HEALTH SERVICES.

3. TO URGE THAT STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN GIVE PRIORITY TO RURAL POPULATION AND THOSE IN MARGINALIZED URBAN AREAS WITH LOW INCOMES.

4. ENDORSE THE IMPLEMENTATION AT A NATIONAL LEVEL OF THE AGREEMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN, THE INTERNAITONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

5. TO PROMOTE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN IN EDUCATIONAL AND LITERACY PROGRAMS, FUNCTIONAL AND INTEGRAL, ALLOWING THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES.

6. TO ENDEAVOR THAT DEVELOPMENT POLICIES INCLUDE THE SPECIFIC NECESSITIES OF WOMEN IN THAT AREA, IMPROVING THE MECHANISMS THAT FACILITATE THEIR INCORPORATION INTO THE PRODUCTIVE PROCESS AND THE DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS.

7. TO SUPPORT THE PERTINENT NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO

ADOPT MEASURES TO DECREASE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS REPEATING THE SCHOOL YEAR AND DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL, AND TO DEFINE METHODOLOGIC STRATEGIES TO ASSIST THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AND EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF PRIMARY EDUCATION.

8. TO PROMOTE PROJECTS THAT WOULD INCREASE ATTENDANCE AND REDUCE THE DROPOUT RATE AMONG FEMALE SCHOOLCHILDREN, SINCE SOCIAL INVESTMENT IN THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS YIELDS A GREAT BENEFIT IN HEALTH IMPROVEMENT, PRODUCTIVITY, FAMILY WELL BEING, DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE.

ADDITIONALLY, THE WIVES OF CHIEFS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS OF THE AMERICAS AGREE TO EXPRESS:

OUR APPRECIATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES, FOR THE INTEREST AND SUPPORT SHOWED DURING THE CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF CHIEFS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS OF THE AMERICAS.

TO CELEBRATE IN 1996, THE 6TH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF CHIEFS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS OF THE AMERICAS, TO BE
UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 ASUNCION 002401

E.O. 12356
TAGS: PREL, OVIP (CLINTON, HILLARY RUDHAM), PA
SUBJECT: PROPOSED "DECLARATION OF ASUNCION" AT THE FIRST LADIES SUMMIT OCTOBER 16-20

HELD IN THE REPUBLIC OF BOLIVIA, AND AGREE TO ORGANIZE THE 7TH CONFERENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA AND TO FORM THE PRO-TEMPORE SECRETARIAT COMPOSED OF THE OFFICES OF THE FIRST LADIES OF BOLIVIA, PARAGUAY, AND PANAMA.

PROTOCOL PARAGRAPH

SIGNED IN ASUNCION, CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY, THIS TWENTIETH DAY OF OCTOBER OF THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY FIVE.
SERVICE
BT
#2401

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

NNNN
<MSGID> M1760136

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

FROM: **Nicole Rabner, OFL**
Liliana Ayalde, USAID
SUBJECT: **Preparatory Meeting in Asuncion**

CC: **Melanne Verveer, OFL**
Richard Feinberg, NSC
Mark Schneider, USAID

Thank you very much for asking us to go on your behalf to the preparatory meeting for the October Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Governments of the Americas. There was an enormous amount of excitement about your participation and gratitude for your guidance on how this conference can focus on concrete ways that First Ladies can make a difference in helping to identify and meet the health and education needs of women and children in their own countries. The Symposium on Children which you hosted in Miami was widely viewed as a model for "getting down to work," talking about issues of common concern and sharing models for success. Much work has been done to build on your example and demonstrate that First Ladies can make a difference in addressing major problems affecting women and children in the region.

The purpose of the preparatory meeting was to solidify the October agenda (the latest draft of which is attached), review progress made on commitments of previous meetings, and negotiate the declaration to be signed by the First Ladies in October. Almost all of the 34 countries of the hemisphere were represented, including the North American countries (U.S., Canada, and Mexico), which are participating for the first time. Unfortunately, most of the Caribbean was not represented, not because of lack of interest, but rather because of funding constraints. As you know, the meeting was far more formal than we anticipated, with a U.N.-style format, mirroring how the October conference will be structured. Media was everpresent and there was wide coverage of the discussions.

As it now stands, the conference will begin with a formal opening ceremony, in which Mrs. Compton of St. Lucia and you will make keynote remarks, referencing the 1994 St. Lucia Conference and the 1994 Miami Symposium, and formally "handing over" to Mrs. Wasmosy the role of host. During the next two days, there will

be a series of substantive working sessions, in which representatives of international organizations (such as UNICEF, PAHO, IDB and other private organizations) and First Ladies will make short presentations on various topics under the umbrella of health and education issues relating to women and children. The first day will focus on children's issues and the second on women's issues. In developing the agenda, the Secretariat made a special effort to incorporate the three priority areas which you highlighted in your letter with Mrs. Wasmosy -- maternal mortality reduction, measles elimination, and investment in girl's and women's education.

As you know, we also have been trying to resolve the conflict of overlapping dates between the Asuncion Conference and the Ibero-American Summit, which will take place in Beriloche, Argentina. The concern is that because of the attendance of the King and Queen of Spain and Portugal, some First Ladies may feel obliged to accompany their husbands to Beriloche. We're working to resolve this issue and anticipate a resolution within the week.

The other item on the agenda was to review a draft of the Asuncion declaration, which the First Ladies will sign. We worked to make the declaration broad principles rather than reporting on specific commitments and details of the discussions at the preparatory meeting. Although the draft was fully negotiated by the advisors, we have the opportunity to provide additional input until September 15th.

Our brief stay in Paraguay was a rich experience and showed Paraguay to be a country, like many South Asian countries, in which the women -- especially the poor women -- face extraordinary burdens of work, family and lack of opportunity. At the same time, there are important efforts underway, supported by USAID, IDB and other institutions, working to improve conditions and invest in the health and education of women and girls. Outside the formal sessions, we had the opportunity to talk and share problems and experiences with our colleagues throughout the region. We were particularly impressed with the commitment and energy of the members of the Secretariat. In our discussions with members of other delegations, it was gratifying to realize that all of us are working on the same issues and toward the same goals under different circumstances.

Please know how important your work and example is to the Latin Americans. Members of many delegations pulled us aside specifically to express their great admiration for your work. It was clear that your involvement will, in a significant way, validate and motivate the ongoing efforts both of the First Ladies and others working in the Americas to improve the health and education of women and children.

REQUIRED FOLLOW-UP

1. Solidify dates for the October conference, resolving outstanding issues of the Ibero-American conference.

2. Map out the itinerary of HRC's South American trip and within each country, identify appropriate field sites and people.

3. Keep in mind, for HRC's remarks in Asuncion, the importance of emphasizing the role that First Ladies can play and to laud their ongoing work.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: South American Travel (2 pages)	07/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20053

FOLDER TITLE:
South America

2013-0534-S
ry1645

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE WHITE HOUSE

July 24, 1995

Hon. Gabriel Guerra-Mondragon
American Ambassador - Santiago
APO AA 34033

Dear Gabriel:

Thank you for your letter and kind invitation to visit Santiago in conjunction with my trip to Paraguay.

I am delighted you had good meetings with Mack and Strobe and appreciate hearing from you. We are in the early planning stages of my trip, but I look forward to the possibility of visiting with you in the fall.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Hillary Rodham Clinton

cc: Patti Solis
Director of Scheduling

bcc: NSC
Melanne Verveer

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SANTIAGO, CHILE

July 11, 1995

THE AMBASSADOR

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Hillary:

We just had the pleasure of receiving Mack McLarty and Strobe Talbott in Santiago. It was a short but very productive visit. It was good to see them.

During the visit, it was mentioned by Mack that you are now going to be in Asuncion, Paraguay on October 16 to be part of the Fifth Conference of Spouses of Chiefs of State and Governments of the Americas. Let me immediately invite you to come to Santiago. I am sure all the neighboring embassies are requesting your presence. Chile, however, is special to us. As you know, it is the next country in line to join NAFTA. We want to give Chile our full support in this complicated effort.

A visit by you to Santiago at this critical time would be most appreciated. We could definitely organize your trip around any area of interest you may have, whether in Santiago or outside the capital.

Mrs. Marta Larraechea de Frei, who has personally told me a number of times how pleased she was to have met with you a couple of times, would be honored and delighted to host you. I do know you and she struck a good working and friendly relationship.

Please let me know if you need more information on Chile than what we already sent to your office.

It would be a great pleasure for me and Alicia to have you with us. You will love this country and its people.

My very best.

Your friend,

Gabriel

Gabriel Guerra-Mondragón

Overall Visit: USAID Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Region

Goals, Objectives and Priorities: USAID programs in LAC support the Agency's overall goal of sustainable development. Specific objectives for the region are: (1) achieve broad-based economic growth with equity; (2) strengthen democracy and governance; (3) stabilize population growth and protect human health; and (4) improve responsible management of the environment.

In order to fulfill the goals of the Summit of the Americas - economic growth with equity in a hemisphere of prosperous and open democracies, USAID programs help achieve foreign policy priorities such as strengthening the government and economy of Haiti, expansion of hemispheric free trade, consolidation of the peace process in Central America and providing economic alternatives to illicit production of drugs in the Andes. These programs directly address vital U.S. interests in the hemisphere such as promotion of U.S. economic opportunity, peace and stability, mitigation of humanitarian crises, and protection of the U.S. against global threats such as epidemic diseases.

USAID Programs: USAID programs in LAC have suffered 50% reductions since 1990 and currently face another potential cut of 25% under proposed Congressional cutbacks. In FY 1996, USAID's budget of approximately $550 million will go to 19 countries to help achieve economic growth, democracy, smaller, healthier and better-educated families, cleaner environments and better-managed natural resources. USAID's strategic objectives and programs promote targeted, intersectoral solutions to achieve sustainable development. They also promote participation of ordinary people in political and economic decision-making processes, and establish effective partnerships of governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), business and donors.

Achievements:

- USAID is helping strengthen democracy in the region, resulting in more effective electoral systems, substantial justice sector reform, expansion of human rights, a more responsible media and decentralization of government. But, the process of democratic transition remains fragile.

- While credit for LAC's rapid economic growth belongs to its people for undertaking difficult market-oriented reforms, the U.S. economic assistance program has contributed significantly to the region's economic revitalization. Nevertheless, widespread poverty and inequity pose continuing threats to both growth and democracy.

- USAID played a major role in helping LAC countries reduce the region's annual rate of population growth from 2.8% (1960s) to 1.8% (1990s).

- Finally, USAID played a catalytic role in encouraging countries to adopt sustainable agriculture policies, preserve biodiversity, and establish endowments to fund NGO environmental activities. (See attachment for more country-specific achievements.)

HEALTH, EDUCATION, POVERTY, AND WOMEN'S STATUS IN LATIN AMERICA

Though Latin America has demonstrated impressive progress in generating economic growth (per capita GDP up by 6% since 1990 after falling 8% in the 1980s), in strengthening democracy, and in reducing infant and child mortality (down 59% and 65% respectively over the last 30 years), the quality of life in the region is characterized by the following trends:

- **Unacceptably high rates of poverty persist** - 46% were living in poverty in 1990 (up from 41% in 1980). Improved economic performance has not yet translated into reduced poverty and a large income gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots" persists in several countries. The poor are often members of indigenous cultures where geographic isolation tends to add to their exclusion from both the political and economic system.

- **Preventable diseases are still a major cause of child mortality.** 585,000 girls and boys under five years of age are still dying from preventable causes every year. Perinatal problems are the leading cause of infant mortality and communicable diseases such as respiratory infections and diarrhea are the leading cause of death among children under five years of age. Approximately 68% of children who die suffer from malnutrition.

- More than 3 million men, women and children are HIV-infected.

- **Fertility rates have decreased but not among some high risk groups.** Contraceptive use among women in union average over 60% (varying widely by country) and the average number of children has dropped from 4.1 to 3.1. However, among women under 20 (who account for nearly 11% of births in the region) fertility has remained constant. Maternal deaths are 25 times higher than the U.S. due to pregnancy complications and obstetrical emergencies.

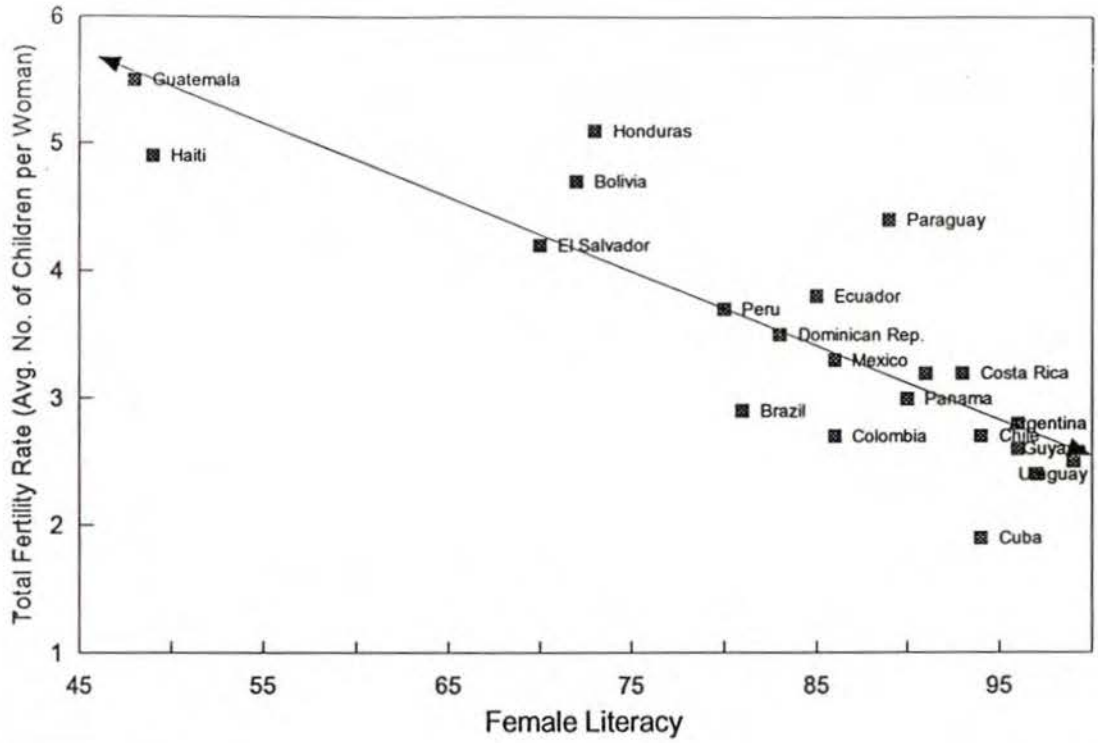
- **Environmental degradation, rapid urbanization, and inadequate preventive measures have led to a resurgence of diseases** such as cholera, malaria, and dengue.

- **Women are often marginalized politically and socially.** In generally male dominated societies, women are heavily under-represented in political institutions (one sample shows only 4% of cabinet posts and 6.9% of national legislators are women). Reforms are still needed in labor law, civil law (marriage, divorce and property rights) and criminal law (domestic violence and sexual assault) to protect women's rights.

- **Poor quality of primary education slows gains from improved access to schooling.** Most countries have achieved the goal of providing access to the first grade of primary education but inability to improve the quality of education resources, and poverty have resulted in high levels of repetition, failure, and drop-outs. Of the nine million 6 or 7 year-old children entering first grade, some four million fail the first time around and 29% of primary school students repeat their grade each year. Barely 50% of the children complete primary school. Declining financial resources are being allocated to primary education in contrast to other regions (e.g. East Asian "miracles") where heavy investment in high-quality basic education is closely correlated with economic progress.

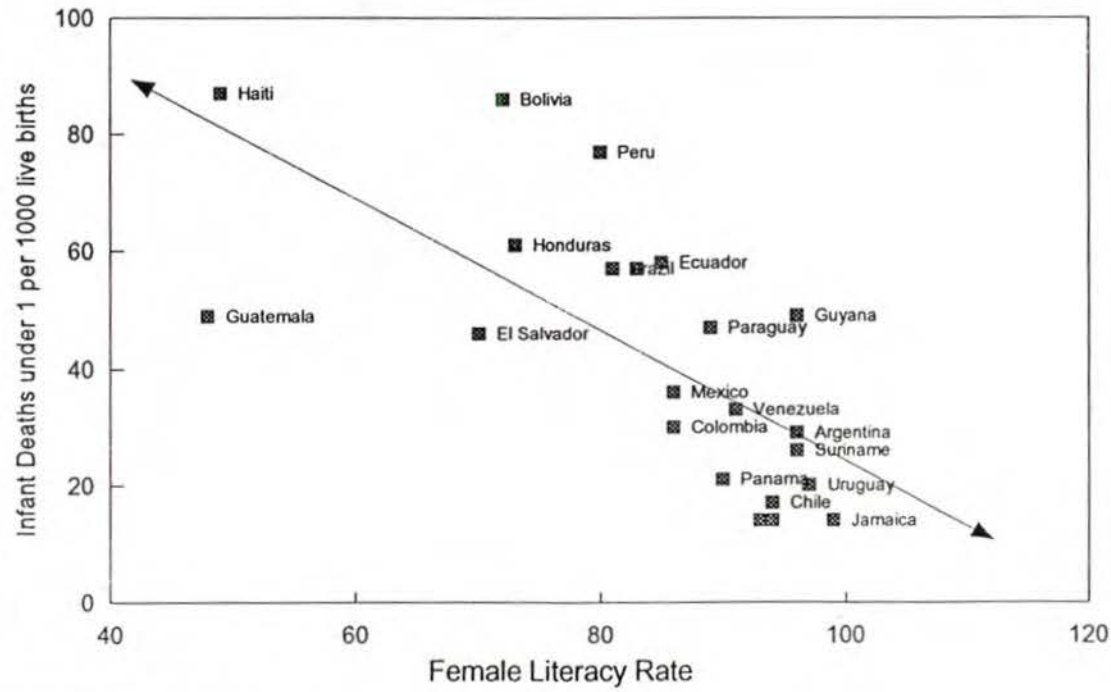
Strong inter-relationships between social indicators in Latin America suggest an integrated development approach. Educational improvements, especially of women, are highly correlated with greater use of preventive health practices and family planning and increased income potential (Attachment A).

Total Fertility Rate and Female Literacy



Source: UNDP. R2=.72

Infant Mortality and Female Literacy



Source: UNDP. R2=.49

USAID

CHART 1

FIRST DRAFT

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1995
AS OF 9/26/95

WASHINGTON, DC; MANAGUA, NICARAGUA; SANTIAGO, CHILE

TRAVELLING STAFF: **KELLY CRAIGHEAD, TRIP DIRECTOR**
MELANNE VERVEER, DEPT. CHIEF OF STAFF
LISA CAPUTO, PRESS SECRETARY
NEEL LATTIMORE, DEPT. PRESS SECRETARY
CAPRICIA MARSHALL, SPECIAL ASSISTANT
STEVEN "SCOOP" COHEN
LISSA MUSCATINE, SPEECHWRITER

Mc Curley
- Diane
- Schneider
- Fuisberg
- Watson
Bassett -
O'Teano

MANAGUA LEAD ADVANCE:

Lilliana Nicole Kerner

SCHEDULER:

PREVIOUS RON	Washington, DC
8 am	**WHEELS UP** from Andrews Air Force Base

Flight Manifest: See Trip Book
Flight Time: 4 hours and 45 minutes (-2)

10:45 am	**WHEELS DOWN** in Managua, Nicaragua
11:00 am	**DEPART** Airport **EN ROUTE** Residence
11:30 am	**FINCA MICRO-CREDIT EVENT** Residence **OPEN PRESS**
12:30 pm	**DEPART** Residence **EN ROUTE** Presidency
1:00 pm	**LUNCH W/PRESIDENT CHAMORRO** Presidency **POOL SPRAY**
1:45 pm	**PROCEED TO SPEECH**

2 pm	**SPEECH TO WOMEN** Auditorium **OPEN PRESS**
2:45 pm	**DEPART** Auditorium **EN ROUTE** Market
3 pm	**MARKET DROP-BY**
3:30 pm	**DEPART** Market **EN ROUTE** Hospital Clinic
3:45 pm	**HOSPITAL CLINIC** **OPEN PRESS**
4:45 pm	**DEPART** Hospital Clinic **EN ROUTE** Airport
5 pm	**EMBASSY MEET AND GREET**
5:30 pm	**WHEELS UP** from Managua, Nicaragua

Flight Manifest: See Trip Book
Flight Time: 6 hours and 35 minutes (+2)

2:05 am	**WHEELS DOWN** in Santiago, Chile
2 am	**DEPART** Airport **EN ROUTE** Hyatt Hotel
2:30 am	**ARRIVE HOTEL**
RON	Hyatt Hotel Santiago, Chile

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1995
AS OF 9/26/95

PREVIOUS RON	Hyatt Hotel
10:45 am	**DEPART** Hyatt Hotel **EN ROUTE** PRODEMU
11:15 am	**PRODEMU** **OPEN PRESS**
12:15 pm	**DEPART** PRODEMU **EN ROUTE** President's Residence
12:45 pm	**LUNCH W/MRS. FREI** President's Residence **POOL SPRAY**
2 pm	**DEPART** President's Residence **EN ROUTE** University
2:30 pm	**SPEECH** University of Chile **OPEN PRESS**
3:15 pm	**DEPART** University of Chile **EN ROUTE** Ambassador's Residence
3:45 pm	**TEA W/PROMINENT WOMEN** Ambassador's Residence OR Site TBD **POOL SPRAY**
5:15 pm	**DEPART** Ambassador's Residence **EN ROUTE** Hotel
5:30 pm 7 pm	**DOWN TIME**
7:30 pm	**AMERICAN RECEPTION** Ambassador's Residence **CLOSED PRESS**
RON	Hyatt Hotel

80 priority with mrs. Frei

Monica Jimenez

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1995
AS OF 9/26/95

PREVIOUS RON	Hyatt Hotel
8:30 am	**LISTENING SESSION W/MICRO-CREDIT WOMEN** Site TBD **OPEN PRESS**
10 am	**DEPART** Site TBD **EN ROUTE** Embassy
10:30 am	**EMBASSY MEET AND GREET** Embassy **CLOSED PRESS**
11:00 am	**DEPART** Embassy **EN ROUTE** Airport
11:30 am	**WHEELS UP** from Santiago, Chile

Flight Manifest: See Trip Book
Flight Time: 4 hours (+1)

4:30 pm	**WHEELS DOWN** in Brasilia, Brazil
5 pm	**MEETING W/PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARDOSO**
5:30 pm	**PRESENTATION BY MRS. CARDOSO**
7 pm	**DEPART** Presidency **EN ROUTE** Airport
7:30 pm	**WHEELS UP** from Brasilia, Brazil

Flight Manifest: See Trip Book
Flight Time: 1 hour and 40 minuts

9:10 pm	**WHEELS DOWN** in Salvador da Bahia
9:20 pm	**DEPART** Salvador da Bahia **EN ROUTE** Hotel Meridien
RON	Hotel Meridien

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1995
AS OF 9/26/95

PREVIOUS RON	Hotel Meridien
8:30 am	**BFKT W/PROMINENT WOMEN**
10:00 am	**DEPART** Hotel **EN ROUTE** Circus
10:30 am	**PROJECTO AXE** Circus by Beach **OPEN PRESS**
noon	**DEPART** Circus **EN ROUTE** Cidade Mae
12:15 pm	**CIDADE MAE** Community Post **OPEN PRESS**
1:45 pm	**DEPART** Cidade Mae **EN ROUTE** Hotel
2 - 5 pm	**DOWN TIME**
5:30 pm	**DEPART** Hotel **EN ROUTE** Historical Center
7 pm	**OLODOON BAND** **POOL PRESS**
RON	Meridien Hotel

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1995
AS OF 9/26/95

PREVIOUS RON	Meridien Hotel
9 am	**SISTER DULCE HOSPITAL**
9:45 am	**DEPART** Sister Dulce **EN ROUTE** Airport
10 am	**WHEELS UP** from Salvador Da Bahia, Brazil

Flight Manifest: See Trip Book
Flight Time: 3 hours and 40 minutes

1:40 pm	**WHEELS DOWN** in Ausuncion, Paraguay
2:30 pm	**PEACE CORP EVENT**
4 pm	**DEPART** Peace Corp Event **EN ROUTE** Hotel
4:30 to 5:30 pm	**DOWN TIME**
5:30 pm	**HAIR AND MAKE UP**
6:15 pm	**DEPART** Hotel **EN ROUTE** Central Bank
6:30 pm	**SPEECH** Central Bank **OPEN PRESS**
7:30 pm	**DEPART** Central Bank **EN ROUTE** Presidential Palace
8 pm	**RECEPTION** Presidential Palace **PRESS???**
RON	Hotel

500 people
diplomatic corps
press
key public

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1995
AS OF 9/26/95

PREVIOUS RON	Hotel
9 am	Working Session on Health Hotel **OPEN PRESS**
noon	**LUNCH** President's Residence **PRESS??**
2:30 pm	**WHEELS UP** from Ausunsion, Paraguay

Flight Manifest: See Trip Book
Flight Time: 6 hours and 25 minutes (-1)

7:55 pm	**WHEELS DOWN** in Puerto Rico
7:55 to 9:10 pm	**RE-FUEL STOP**
9:10 pm	**WHEELS UP** from Puerto Rico

Flight Manifest: See Trip Book
Flight Time: 3 hours and 45 minutes

12:55 am	**WHEELS DOWN** in Washington, DC

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 11, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

FROM: **Nicole Rabner, OFL**
Liliana Ayalde, USAID
SUBJECT: **Preparatory Meeting in Asuncion**

CC: **Melanne Verveer, OFL**
Richard Feinberg, NSC
Mark Schneider, USAID

Thank you very much for asking us to go on your behalf to the preparatory meeting for the October Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Governments of the Americas. There was an enormous amount of excitement about your participation and gratitude for your guidance on how this conference can focus on concrete ways that First Ladies can make a difference in helping to identify and meet the health and education needs of women and children in their own countries. The Symposium on Children which you hosted in Miami was widely viewed as a model for "getting down to work," talking about issues of common concern and sharing models for success. Much work has been done to build on your example and demonstrate that First Ladies can make a difference in addressing major problems affecting women and children in the region.

The purpose of the preparatory meeting was to solidify the October agenda (the latest draft of which is attached), review progress made on commitments of previous meetings, and negotiate the declaration to be signed by the First Ladies in October. Almost all of the 34 countries of the hemisphere were represented, including the North American countries (U.S., Canada, and Mexico), which are participating for the first time. Unfortunately, most of the Caribbean was not represented, not because of lack of interest, but rather because of funding constraints. As you know, the meeting was far more formal than we anticipated, with a U.N.-style format, mirroring how the October conference will be structured. Local media was everpresent and there was wide coverage in Asuncion of the discussions.

As it now stands, the conference will begin with a formal opening ceremony, in which Mrs. Compton of St. Lucia and you will make keynote remarks, referencing the 1994 St. Lucia Conference and the 1994 Miami Symposium, and formally "handing over" to Mrs.

Wasmosy the role of host. During the next two days, there will be a series of substantive working sessions, in which representatives of international organizations (such as UNICEF, PAHO, IDB and other private organizations) and First Ladies will make short presentations on various topics under the umbrella of health and education issues relating to women and children. The first day will focus on children's issues and the second on women's issues. In developing the agenda, the Secretariat made a special effort to incorporate the three priority areas which you highlighted in your letter with Mrs. Wasmosy -- maternal mortality reduction, measles elimination, and investment in girls' and women's education.

As you know, we also have been trying to resolve the conflict of overlapping dates between the Asuncion Conference and the Ibero-American Summit, which will take place in Beriloche, Argentina. The concern is that because of the attendance of the King and Queen of Spain and Portugal, some First Ladies may feel obliged to accompany their husbands to Beriloche. We're working to resolve this issue and anticipate a resolution within the week.

The other item on the agenda was to review a draft of the Asuncion declaration, which the First Ladies will sign. We worked to make the declaration broad principles rather than reporting on specific commitments and details of the discussions at the preparatory meeting. Although the draft was fully negotiated by the advisors, we have the opportunity to provide additional input until August 15th.

Our brief stay in Paraguay was a rich experience and showed Paraguay to be a country, like many South Asian countries, in which the women -- especially the poor women -- face extraordinary burdens of work, family and lack of opportunity. At the same time, there are important efforts underway, supported by USAID, IDB and other institutions, working to improve conditions and invest in the health and education of women and girls. Outside the formal sessions, we had the opportunity to talk and share problems and experiences with our colleagues throughout the region. We were particularly impressed with the commitment and energy of the members of the Secretariat. In our discussions with members of other delegations, it was gratifying to realize that all of us are working on the same issues and toward the same goals under different circumstances.

Please know how important your work and example is to the Latin Americans. Members of many delegations pulled us aside specifically to express their great admiration for your work. It was clear that your involvement will, in a significant way, validate and motivate the ongoing efforts both of the First Ladies and others working in the Americas to improve the health and education of women and children.

REQUIRED FOLLOW-UP

1. Solidify dates for the October conference, resolving outstanding issues of the Ibero-American conference.

2. Map out the itinerary of HRC's South American trip and within each country, identify appropriate field sites and people.

3. Keep in mind, for HRC's remarks in Asuncion, the importance of emphasizing the role that First Ladies can play and to laud their ongoing work.

CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS
DE JEFES DE ESTADO
Y DE GOBIERNO
DE LAS AMERICAS
SECRETARIA PRO - TEMPORE

FIFTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS

"THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN"

Asunción, Paraguay
October 16-20, 1995

NOTE: Not all First Ladies have identified where on the agenda they would like to participate.

AGENDA

Monday, October 16

Site: Central Bank of Paraguay (Teatro Lírico)

7:00 pm	Transportation of the First Ladies and Delegates to the site of the Conference
7:30 pm	Opening of the Inaugural Session of the Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas
	Entrance of the First Ladies
	Paraguayan National Anthem
	Remarks by Mrs. Maria Teresa Carrasco de Wasmosy, First Lady of the Republic of Paraguay
	Remarks by Mrs. Janice Compton, First Lady of Saint Lucia
	Remarks by Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, First Lady of the United States of America
	Remarks by Mr. Juan Carlos Wasmosy, His Excellency The President of the Republic of Paraguay
	The Orchestra of the City of Asunción (OSCA)
	Closing (With the participation of the Paraguayan Guitar Player, Ms. Berta Rojas)
8:30 pm	Welcoming Cocktail Party
9:30 pm	Transportation to the Yacht and Golf Club

Despacho de la
Primera Dama
de la Nación

Maestro Pellegrini 495 esq. Avda. Stma. Trinidad. Tel. (595-21) 290-753 y 290-757 Fax (595-21) 291-631.
Asunción - Paraguay

CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS
DE JEFES DE ESTADO
Y DE GOBIERNO
DE LAS AMERICAS
SECRETARIA PRO - TEMPORE

Tuesday, October 17
Site: Paraguayan Central Bank

9:00 am — Official Photograph

9:30 am — Initiation of Conference

First Working Session
Topic: "Children's Health"

1. Results from the **Children's Symposium** by Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton

2. **Measles Elimination and Children's Immunizations in the Americas**

   a. Presentation by PAHO
   b. Presentation by the following First Ladies:
   Guatemala, Mrs. Eugenia Morales de De León
   Honduras, Mrs. Bessie Watson de Reina
   Panama, Mrs. Dora Boyd de Pérez Balladares

10:30 am — Coffee break

11:00 am

3. **Program on Substance Abuse and Street Children in the Americas**

   a. Evaluation by WHO/PSA
   b. Presentation by the following First Ladies:
   Colombia
   Ecuador, Mrs. Josefina Villalobos de Durán Ballén

12:00 pm — 4. Debate

1:00 pm — Lunch

3:00 pm

Second Working Session
Topic: "Children's Education"

1. Introduction of the topic by UNICEF

2. Education of girls

   a. General analysis by UNESCO
   b. Presentation by the following First Ladies:
   Mexico, Mrs. Nilda Velasco de Zedillo

4:00 pm — 3. Debate

4:30 pm — 4. Presentation of **"Very Special Arts-Paraguay"**

   a. Artistic show

CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS
DE JEFES DE ESTADO
Y DE GOBIERNO
DE LAS AMERICAS
SECRETARIA PRO - TEMPORE

Wednesday, October 18

Third Working Session
Topic: "Women's Health"

9:00 am
1. Recommendations from the Fourth Conference by Mrs. Janice Compton

2. Plan of Action to reduce **Maternal Mortality and Morbidity in the Americas**
   a. Introduction by PAHO
   b. Presentation by the following First Ladies: Bolivia, Mrs. Ximena I. de Sánchez de Lozada

10:00 am — Coffee break

10:30 am
3. Project on **Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy**
   a. Introduction by UNFPA
   b. Presentation by the following First Ladies: Uruguay, Mrs. Marta Canessa de Sanguinetti

11:15 am
4. Program **"Latin America in the Struggle against Cancer"**
   a. Evaluation of the Program by ALICC
   b. Presentation of the following First Ladies:

12:00 pm
5. Debate

1:00 pm — Lunch

3:00 pm
Fourth Working Session
Topic: **"Violence against Women"**

1. Convention of Belem do Pará
   a. Analysis by CIM

3:30 pm
2. Regional Program on Violence against Women
   a. Introduction by PAHO
   b. Presentation by the following First Ladies: Costa Rica, Mrs. Josette Altmann de Figueres

4:00 pm
3. Debate

4:30 pm — Coffee break

5:00 pm
Fifth Working Session
Topic: **"Women's Education/Training"**

1. Introduction by IDB
2. Presentation of the following First Ladies: Paraguay, Mrs. María Teresa Carrasco de Wasmosy Chile, Mrs. Marta Larraechea de Frei

6:00 pm
3. Debate



CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS
DE JEFES DE ESTADO
Y DE GOBIERNO
DE LAS AMERICAS
SECRETARIA PRO - TEMPORE

Thursday, October 19

9:00 am	Sixth Working Session Topic: **"Fourth World Conference on Women"**
	1. Introduction by the U.N.
	2. Presentation of the following First Ladies: Brazil, Mrs. Ruth Correa Leite de Cardozo El Salvador, Mrs. Elizabeth A. de Calderón Sol
10:00 am	3. Debate
10:30 am	Coffee break
11:00- 12:30 pm	Panel of International Organisms- Debate
	Open schedule for First Ladies
3:00 pm	Analysis of the Declaration of Asunción by the Technical Advisers

Friday, October 20

Seventh Working Session

10:00 am	Signing of the Declaration of Asunción and Closing of the Conference
11:00 am	Press Conference
12:00 pm	Open lunch
5:00 pm	Departure of Delegations

Saturday, October 21
Departure of Delegations

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release October 12, 1995

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE NICARAGUAN INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN
MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

MRS. CLINTON: Thank you all for gathering here this afternoon and honoring me with your presence. It is the first time I have been to your country, and it is one year to the day that Vice President Gore was here to attend the Central American Environmental Summit. We both happened to come to Nicaragua on Dia de la Raza, a day of celebration commemorating both the voyage of Columbus and the rich indigenous cultures of this hemisphere. I did not know before I planned my trip that your American visitors from Washington chose the same day in October to be here. But I am delighted to be able to come to this country, to see with my own eyes, the progress that you are making. This country and all of Central America is both the bridge that unites the continent and the crossroads of our many ethnic histories and traditions.

I feel especially privileged to have spent time talking with your President. She embodies the spirit and the will of the people of Nicaragua and of Central America, as all of you work together to find a future of peace understanding and cooperation.

We are living in a time of momentous change around our world, as dictatorships and tyrannies give way to more open, tolerant societies and new respect for human rights. Nicaragua is a vital force in the march to democracy that has transformed this continent and is transforming the world.

Over the past five years, your country, under the leadership of your President, has guided this nation from war to peace, from division to reconciliation, from conflict to tolerance, from economic stagnation to recovery. During the President's tenure, democratic institutions are taking root, instances of human rights abuses by security have greatly diminished and political violence has virtually disappeared. All Nicaraguans can be very proud of the progress that has been achieved in the face of great economic obstacles.

I know I speak for many in the United States and truly around the world when I say how much I admire your President's spirited and compassionate leadership and your people's courage and commitment to following this path.

I have come here today to convey in the strongest terms the United States' commitment to the people and government of Nicaragua. Many of you in this room have made great sacrifices to launch your country on the path to democracy, freedom, and prosperity.

Many of you have endured great hardship as your nation has struggled to shift from a closed economy to a market economy. You have shown the resilience and determination needed to achieve true economic progress and political freedom. And I want to assure you today that the United States and the President will continue to stand by you as your nation works to improve the lives of all of its people and of the prosperity here and throughout our hemisphere.

I will be in Paraguay for a meeting in a few days with women from all over our hemisphere. The first time we met together was almost a year ago in Miami during the Summit of the Americas.

It was at that summit that the democratic nations of North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean region set forth an agenda to promote prosperity through trade initiatives, investments in people, and more effective government.

The United States' objective was expressed in the Summit's Declaration of Principles and Action Plan: support for democracy and democratic reform; the implementation of free market reforms; the alleviation of poverty; investment in people and the protection of the environment -- all principles to which our country remains committed today.

It was also at that Summit, and I think it was no accident, that the only woman President in the hemisphere, your President, urged her colleagues to commit to a goal of strengthening the role of women and girls throughout the hemisphere.

I want to thank your President and all of you for supporting her in that effort -- for reminding our political leaders that prosperity, democracy and social progress cannot be sustained in countries where women and girls are not valued as full and equal partners in society.

As the Miami Summit made clear -- and, as the recent United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women made clear again -- democracy, economic prosperity, and social justice go hand in hand.

Today, too many nations waste precious resources on building weapons of mass destruction, staging wars, and doing violence to basic human rights. Too often, natural resources are destroyed, and human ones exploited through socially irresponsible behavior. Today, too much time is spent in pursuit of power instead of in pursuit of peace and prosperity.

No single nation is to blame. Every nation needs to do more for its people -- especially for girls and women. And that means ensuring that women -- along with men -- have access to health care, education, jobs, credit, and are free from violence and allowed to participate fully in the political life of their countries.

Some of you, like me, had the opportunity to attend the women's conference in Beijing last month. It was an extraordinary coming together of women and men from all over the world -- an historic gathering that succeeded in bringing world attention to the issues that matter most to the lives of women and their families.

In doing so, it gave voice to the voiceless -- women in every country who are the backbone of their families, yet are denied the basic opportunities of comprehensive health care, education and training, jobs, decent wages, and access to credit, and even the chance to enjoy basic legal and human rights.

There were some -- even in my own country -- who doubted that anything significant would be accomplished in Beijing. But the conference did achieve a remarkable consensus about what is needed to improve the lives of women around the world.

The document that more than 180 nations endorsed reflects a new understanding that improving the lives of women makes for strong, healthy, and loving families -- and that, in turn, if families are strong, communities and nations will be strong as well.

As I said in Beijing, the single most important message echoing forth from that conference is that human rights are women's rights -- and women's rights are human rights.

Now, we must take that consensus and move forward with it. The vision of the women's conference will be realized only if we commit ourselves in our daily lives to addressing the challenges that still confront us here in Nicaragua, in my own country, and around the globe. Governments play a vital role in improving the lives of women, especially children, boys and girls. But governments cannot act alone. Strong partnerships with the private sector, the NGO community, have been essential in the past, and they will be even more so in the years ahead.

Individual citizens will have to play their role in families, work places, and civil society to support democracy's promise of positive change.

But I believe if we are committed to working together, much as your delegation in Beijing worked together, we can succeed in improving lives for all people, but particularly for girls and women and assure that they finally attain their rightful place and position in society.

Here in your country, strong women, like you, through your many accomplishments in the areas of microenterprise, education, health, business, government, academia have been instrumental in national reconciliation, democracy, and economic growth.

And your government, under the leadership of your President, has made a strong commitment to the kind of human investments in people endorsed in Miami and in Beijing.

Reducing maternal and child mortality through improved primary health care and prenatal care is a national priority of your government, and I am proud that the United States, through the Agency for International Development, is supporting that effort. That is a critical first step to ensure that all children are born as healthy as they can be and all mothers lives are protected.

Opening the doors of learning to girls and women is a critical step that Nicaragua has taken more quickly and boldly than many other countries. At the same time, I have learned that keeping children in school remains a problem. For that reason, one of our countries largest projects here is in working with the Ministry of Education, to improve the quality of primary education.

Because so many nations in our hemisphere share a concern about the quality of education, particularly that available for poor and rural children, it was agreed at the Miami Summit to create a hemispheric Partnership for Education Reform. It is called PERA, and it will create a network of public and private institutions working in concert to assure that children not only receive schooling, but are trained to compete in the modern global economy.

Your government has also committed itself to protecting and respecting human rights-- which includes the right of all women to live free from violence inside and outside of their homes. I was very glad to learn recently that the Ministry of Public Health has established a special commission to address the issue of domestic violence, which affects women not only in this country, not only in my country, but in every country around the world.

We are discovering here in Nicaragua and in many other countries, that investing in people, particularly girls and women, and I repeat that because this a relatively new lesson for many in the world to have learned, but those investments in girls and women, in their health care and in their education, yields greater dividends than any other kinds of investment a nation can make.

Earlier today, I visited a community bank here in Managua. That bank is controlled by 34 women who borrow modest amounts of money to invest in their own businesses. They also make sure

that everybody pays back what is owed. And, in stark contrast to the payback rates in my own contra, all these women have paid their loans back, their repayment rate is 100 percent, which should be the envy of any commercial bank.

On a small scale, but very significantly, these women are taking control of their own lives, and the destinies of themselves and their children. And in so doing, they are not only bringing greater prosperity to themselves, to their families, and their communities, but I could see the pride in their eyes, I could hear the accomplishment in their voices as they told me what they had achieved, as they had made these loans turn into businesses for themselves.

Women like that will become not only income earners, but will be more committed to their own families and their communities and will want to make a difference through the political process and in civil society.

The program I visited is run by a non-governmental organization that USAID is proud to support. It has proven that women are not only good credit risks, but that those small businesses can grow and adding one to the other, can contribute to national economic growth. Nearly 100 community banks, like the one I saw, have been established in only 18 months and some 6000 individuals, mostly women, are benefiting.

I have seen this kind of public-private partnership replicated in many other countries, including my own. This morning here in Managua, when I asked the women with whom I was meeting if they had any questions, one women said, I know you met with women in India who are doing what we are doing, tell us about them. I could hardly catch my breath because for me the idea that women here were thinking about what was happening half-way around the world, that they were finding common ground, that they were seeing that women everywhere have so much in common as we attempt to make our own lives with dignity and pride, was very moving to me.

We took a picture of all the women I was with and I told them I would send it to the women I met in India, because I wanted the women in India to see the faces of the women in Nicaragua who themselves are building their own futures.

This is just one example of what we can do together, when we get beyond conflict, when we put away the terrible tragedy of war, when we overcome the obstacles that too often divide us, then we are able to work together to find ways to help lift each other out of poverty and dependency, and into self-reliance.

Nicaragua is also moving forward in another area, the participation of women in political life. Many women now claim places in the halls of government-- from the top, with your President, on down. This bodes well, not only for women, but for

the entire democratic process, because it does rely on the participation and experience of all its citizens.

My country has been an active partner of yours because we believe in the democratic mission you have begun. We also believe that as democracies in this hemisphere we share many of the aspirations and concerns for the future.

Our two nations, along with our neighbors, depend on each other in ways large and small. Decisions, for example, about the Central American forests can have serious consequences to the north and the south. An outbreak of cholera in Peru can threaten Central America just as outbreak of dengue fever here can threaten the health of tens of millions of people in the United States or Canada. Open markets and free trade contribute to the prosperity of all nations. The success of democracy in each country strengthens democracy in all countries.

Throughout the 1980's, Central America struggled to overcome the human suffering that accompanies war, injustice, and economic deprivation. Vast sums of money were spent to try to return stability to this region.

Now peace is here. Now democracy faces its truest test.

Now is no time for those here and abroad who support the Nicaraguan struggle for democracy and freedom to turn their backs on this brave country. We must remain steadfast in support of your efforts.

We must take the message that through better health, education, and good jobs, men and women can build stronger families, stronger communities, a stronger Nicaragua.

We must see that through democratic reconciliation and investments in people, Nicaragua is building a stronger national family.

And we must see that as the Nicaraguan family unites, and as your economy grows, your nation will continue to be a vital partner in the hemispheric family of democracies. We admire your courage and your conviction. We applaud your commitment as you move through these processes, that are not easy, cannot be accomplished overnight. But, as women, perhaps we have more of an understanding of how time sometimes must be given its due, that we have to continue working through the difficult times because we believe so strongly in the vision of the future we are trying to create.

Girls and women throughout the world are responding to the challenges of economic opportunity and democratic participation. I have seen in this very very short visit some of what you are doing here. I hope some day soon, to be able to return to see for myself even more.

I bring to you not only the strong appreciation, but the word of friendship and partnership, not only from women in the United States, but from all people who support and admire your country's passage and will stand with you as you make it.

God bless you all and thank you very much.

###

United States Information Service

U.S. Embassy — Santiago
Unit 4123
APO AA 34033

Telephone: (56-2) 232-2600

USIS

AS DELIVERED REMARKS BY FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHILE

Santiago, Chile
October 13, 1995

Thank you Señor Rector for that very informative review of the relationships between our two countries and the special relationship with this university. I want to thank you and all of the distinguished platform guests, as well as this audience for the invitation to be here today.

It is a great honor for me not only to be at the university, but to be here in Santiago. This is my first trip to South America, and I am delighted to have the chance to spend time here in this country, which represents so much hope and promise for democracy and prosperity in our region of the world.

And I must say that I would like a copy of the speech that President Theodore Roosevelt gave here, because the challenge to sustain democracy continues. It is a challenge that we all must meet every day in our own countries, and I would like to learn from the wisdom of President Roosevelt.

When I woke up this morning and looked out my hotel window at the beautiful Andes, I understood immediately why every visitor to this country is so taken with its natural beauty. Everyone with whom I spoke before I started this trip told me that when I got to Chile, I would be overwhelmed, both by the beauty of the country, and the warmth of the people. That was certainly a prophecy that has come true.

I want to thank particularly President and Mrs. Frei for their gracious hospitality, for the time they have both spent with me, and for their interest in issues that directly affect the lives of women, children and families.

Being here at this university, I am reminded of what someone once said to me. That is that Chile's greatest export is its ideas. My first thought when I heard that was that every young person I know, by the time he or she graduates from high school, has read a poem by Neruda or by Mistral. In fact, my husband and I just celebrated our twentieth wedding anniversary a few days ago and one of the gifts he gave me was Neruda's twenty love poems, one for each year. And I brought them with me on this trip (applause).

Although the idea that your exporting of ideas refers first in the minds of so many to your great writers, poets, philosophers, and teachers who are known around the world, it also refers to an approach that you have developed here to political and economic reform, that has become a model for many nations on this continent and beyond. What we see occurring in Chile is the kind of progress that can be achieved when there is a genuine commitment to investing in people. And that means investing in education and training, health care and jobs, and respecting the right of every citizen, including women, to participate fully in the political life of a country.

Chile and the United States share a commitment to democracy, social justice, and equality of opportunity. And we are working together in many endeavors. And we have, as you have already heard from the Rector, been partners here at this university in the creation of the school of geology and the labor and organization department, and in faculty exchanges. Many of the efforts in joint scientific research are symbolic of the deeper partnership between our peoples.

Improving the quality of teaching and schooling has been a principal focus of investment in both our countries. And that makes sense, because education universally is a cornerstone of any strong and lasting democracy. I feel very strongly about this issue. Not only because education has played such an important role in my life and in the life of my husband. But because around the world we have seen how the acquisition of knowledge and skills can lift whole groups of people out of poverty and dependence and into self-reliance and prosperity.

I learned about this first hand when my husband was governor of his home state of Arkansas, one of the poorest states in our country. At the time he was first elected in 1978, Arkansas ranked almost at the bottom in national measures of education. For decades, there had been very little public support for schools. And there were very few resources with which to initiate reform.

When my husband asked me to become the chair of an education task force, I spent many days, and weeks and months traveling throughout the state, talking with parents and teachers, community and business leaders. And an extraordinary thing happened as the attention to education became better understood, as to how it related to providing for better lives and the livelihood for people who themselves had not had first hand experience with the full range of education. Businesses joined together with citizen groups to lobby the State Legislature in support of a special tax to raise money for education. That was unheard of, to ask for any kind of tax, let alone one for the public schools. But businesses, as they learned in Arkansas and around America, and as you have learned here in Chile, know that future success depends heavily on the availability of an educated and skilled workforce. And so businesses began to understand that better schools would mean better workers. And better workers would mean greater prosperity for individual families, communities, states, and nations.

Within a few years of that reform measure being approved, there were differences in the quality of teachers and schools. And students' performance began to improve, and eventually even the standard of living for many people. I tell you this story, because it mirrors so much of what we see going on around the world today, and what you have committed to doing here in Chile. What makes your situation so unusual and inspiring is that your country succeeded in returning to democracy, achieving lasting economic growth, and reducing the number of people living in poverty --all at the same time.

Would any of this have been possible if your nation had failed to invest in the education of its people?

You have kept alive the dream of upward mobility for people, and that will continue with the education reforms I heard about today from the Minister of Education. And your continued access to new markets where not only the ideas but the products of Chile will be joining the world economy. And your future accession to the North American Free Trade Agreement, which President Clinton is committed to achieving will strengthen the partnership not only between our two countries, but among the countries in this hemisphere.

Education has played a critical role in all of those movements, and also in our own country. I do not think the United States would have endured as the longest democratic nation without an educational tradition that began with the earliest colonial settlers, expanded to one-room schoolhouses on the western frontier and then created a nationwide system of public universities.

Throughout our hemisphere, we will continue to depend on today's students, and we will have to continue to invest in them. Because increasingly, education is central to all of our goals for a more prosperous, peaceful 21st century. But if we look honestly at our hemisphere today, we have to admit that barely half of the children in Latin America now finish elementary school. And far too few graduate from secondary school. For those of us from the United States and from Chile, where education is a priority and where so much progress has been made, we do have a stake in what happens in the childrens' lives throughout our hemisphere.

For that reason, government leaders participating in the Summit of the Americas in Miami last year agreed to create a hemispheric Partnership for Education Reform Alternatives. It is called PERA. It will bring together governments, development organizations, non-governmental organizations, and businesses to help reform education policies. That means that all nations will be pursuing a plan similar to the one you have adopted here to improve the quality of teaching and schools to raise educational standards, to improve the management of schools and, to strengthen the education of women and girls, which is a key to economic prosperity everywhere.

I am pleased to announce that the United States will help provide technical and financial support for this five-year project. And I know what that can mean throughout our hemisphere.

This morning I visited the M.E.C.E. (ed. note: Project to Improve Educational Quality and Equity) school not far from here with Mrs. Frei. It is a wonderful example of how the Chilean reform movement has improved the quality of education for students at all levels. I saw the computers and watched the children working on those computers. I heard a briefing about how the schools are now going to be open on Saturdays and maybe Sundays as well so that children and families where parents are working, or who have no alternatives for productive use of their time will be able to come back to school to learn some new and additional skills. This kind of reform movement and the kind of investment it represents is absolutely as clear a statement as any could be made about what your country really believes is important.

You have also been willing to experiment with new methods of teaching. You have not been content to stay with the old methods but to try new ways of persuading teachers to become more involved and committed, I hope that the model I saw today and others that are taking place throughout Chile will be replicated across the Americas. Because if we work on this issue together then we will see the quality of life and the standard of living throughout the hemisphere raised.

This is not just an issue for countries that are not concerned or have not been able to invest in education for all people. It has to be a constant concern even for countries like ours, where education has taken root. My husband believes that our nation must continue to invest in education and is determined to continue his efforts to promote life-long learning --pre school through university into the work force. Because the skills required in today's global economy are constantly changing, and people must be willing to change in order to be competitive.

Now, of course, we know that education alone, even reformed education, such as you are undertaking here and that my husband is committed to in the United States will not guarantee social and political progress. As was made clear at last year's Miami Summit -- and made clear again at the International Women's Conference in Beijing -- democracy, prosperity and social progress cannot be sustained in countries where women and girls are not valued as full and equal partners in society.

Some of you, like me, had the privilege of attending the U.N. conference last month. It was an extraordinary coming together on issues that are critical to the lives of women and children.
There were some --in my country and elsewhere -- who doubted that such a conference could result in any call to action. But it did achieve a remarkable consensus about what is needed

to improve the lives of women around the world. More than 180 nations endorsed a document that sets forth specific proposals that if followed could make a difference.

As I said in Beijing, the single most important message echoing forth from that conference is that human rights are women's rights -- and women's rights are human rights. But we have to take that statement and the plan of action and move beyond both in order to implement what it is we know needs to be done to ensure that women and girls have the opportunities to fulfill their God-given potential in their homes, their schools, communities and workplaces.

This is particularly urgent because we have a diverging economy in the world today. Those who are educated, who are able to manipulate language and symbols will do very well in this new economy. Those who are not, will be left behind, and even further behind. Seventy percent of the world's poor are women; and women are two-thirds of those who cannot read or write. At the same time, women are busy every day doing much of the world's work -- everything from raising children to cooking meals, washing clothes, cleaning houses, planting crops, working on assembly lines, running companies and even running countries.

Women need and deserve what I sometimes call the tools of opportunity: access to education, to health care, credit and jobs, as well as legal protections and freedom from violence in their own homes as well as in the streets.

Education answers all of these needs, because it provides the basis for so many other opportunities in life. Women who are schooled are better able to take care of their own health and the health of their families; they are able to compete for better-paying jobs; they have more say over the direction of their own lives.

Just yesterday I stopped in Nicaragua, a nation that has started down the path to democracy and a market economy. The transition has been difficult and about half the population continues to live in poverty. The first stop I made though was a tiny bank in a barrio in Managua. It is run by 30 poor women who borrow modest amounts of money to invest in their own businesses. One woman told me she had started a bakery; another made mosquito netting; a third was a seamstress. Not only had these women organized themselves to improve their own circumstances, but by doing so they were improving the circumstances of their families and communities. One sign of their new self-esteem and determination was that they have a loan repayment rate of 100 percent. That would be the envy of many commercial banks that I am knowledgeable about.

These small and seemingly insignificant steps are changing lives and they will change nations. In fact, one of the women at the bank in Managua asked me about my trip to India last spring, because she knew I had visited a similar bank there. What she didn't know was that I will also be visiting a bank like that here in Santiago tomorrow before leaving.

The movement for micro-credit, micro-enterprise, the capacity for credit to become available to women so that they themselves can become entrepreneurs, start small businesses is one of the most important opportunities any nation has to build its economy from the grassroots up while it is making macro-changes that will have national and international effects.

If we invest in people, while we continue to move forward with respect to democracy and prosperity, the rewards for all people will be spread more evenly and justly throughout the society.

A few hours ago, I had the opportunity to visit with Mrs. Frei a community center where I saw in action programs working with pre-school youngsters, with women and with couples to strengthen families, to make marriages more open and stable, so that couples together will commit themselves to their children's future. It was a wonderful example of how foundations here in this country are working to better the lives of children, women, and families by making these investment where it matters in their relationships, in their capacities, in their futures.

Mrs. Frei and I will be in Paraguay in a few days to participate in a conference of First Ladies from our hemisphere. Foremost on our minds, and the minds of our fellow participants, will be the very issues that have been so instrumental in your nation's return to democracy, its economic ascent, and the examples of social progress I have witnessed during my brief stay here.

And I know while I am at this conference I will think back to my visit here at this university, because the ideals that it represents are ideals that need to take root and take flower in every nation of our hemisphere. Ideals of education, free inquiry, public discourse. Those ideals are embodied firmly now in Chilean society. Your country is an example and a model for many others who are struggling still for their own democracies to take root and flower. It is a privilege for me to see what has been achieved, but I was especially honored to see that you are not resting on the laurels of the successes that can be pointed to. But that every day, whether it is a plan to reform education or to strengthen families, you understand that there are three legs to the stool for progress in the twenty first century: democracy, free market economies, and social investment. And this is one place the world can look to see a stool that is firmly grounded and that will provide a setting for future progress for all the people of this country.

Thank you for what you are doing, the example you are setting and for the partnership and friendship that you have with our country. Thank you very much. (Applause)

****

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release October 16, 1995

REMARKS BY FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON AT THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENTS OF THE AMERICAS ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

MRS. CLINTON: I am privileged to have the opportunity to represent my country, the United States, for the first time at this Fifth Conference of First Ladies from the Western Hemisphere. It is also a great honor for me to be here in Paraguay with all of you.

We have gathered together to discuss the futures of women and children in all of our countries. Whether we live in North, Central, or South America or the Caribbean region, we are united in our belief that women everywhere share common aspirations and concerns.

Yet, as we meet here in this beautiful hall this evening, we also know that a vast reservoir of human potential is now being wasted across the Americas.

No nation in our hemisphere can say that all of its children are fed, clothed, housed, schooled, and raised by loving parents. No nation in our hemisphere can say that all of its women are treated with dignity, respect, and given the chance to fulfill their God-given potentials. And no nation can say that each and every family within its borders is healthy, strong, and stable.

Our world, as we know, is far from perfect. But even though enormous challenges remain, we have come here hopeful about our future. Hopeful because, somewhere in our hemisphere right now, a baby in a local health clinic is being immunized against a serious disease. . . a little girl is going to school and is learning to read and write . . . a woman is taking out a small loan from a neighborhood bank that will enable her to start her own business in her home. We know that every problem we face in our hemisphere is being solved somewhere in our region at this very moment.

We are also hopeful because of the progress made at last year's Summit of the Americas in Miami, at the United Nations Conference on Social Development in Copenhagen earlier this year, and more recently at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on

Women in Beijing. I think it is very fitting that we meet after those three historic gatherings, which drew world attention to the plight of women and children and, in so doing, to the plight of families as well.

Since Miami, we have seen cooperation grow among our nations, and our political leaders. The Summit not only recognized every nation's duty to invest in its people, but also the special role that girls and women play in the economic and social development of the Western Hemisphere.

That theme was reiterated again in Copenhagen, which focused on the alleviation of poverty as an essential factor in political, social and economic progress.

Many of us also attended last month's women's conference in Beijing, where it was again made clear that democracy and prosperity cannot be attained or sustained in countries that do not value women as full and equal partners in society.

The conferences in Miami, Copenhagen and Beijing showed the world that issues involving children and women are not secondary issues. They are keys to building democratic institutions, strengthening market economies, and achieving social justice.

They are also among the hardest issues we face.

That is why the agreement reached in Miami last year was an historic first for countries of this hemisphere. For the first time, there was universal recognition that no nation can compete in the global economy if half its population cannot read or write, cannot find a job, or cannot rise out of poverty.

And that is why it is also heartening that, despite assurances from skeptics that nothing would be accomplished in Beijing, more than 180 nations endorsed a platform for action that lays out specific ways to expand the rights and opportunities of women around the world.

This is particularly critical today, given the growing gap between the rich and the poor, the educated and the uneducated, the skilled and the unskilled.

Those among us who enjoy the opportunities of education, health care, jobs, credit, legal and political rights are flourishing in the new global economy. Those without such opportunities are lagging farther and farther behind. And more often than not, those lagging behind are women and poor children.

This trend, if it continues, threatens to undermine the very institutions we are seeking to uphold: strong families, strong economies, and strong democracies. All will be in jeopardy if women

continue to be denied the opportunities they need to thrive and compete in the new century.

So, what must change?

First, values and attitudes.

In our everyday lives, we must begin to respect the dignity of each person, no matter where that person lives or what he or she looks like. To do that, we must be willing to overcome many assumptions, presumptions, prejudices and prejudgments.

Because, to truly respect a child means to respect every child in every family, boy or girl. To respect a child means to give that child the love, attention, and discipline he or she needs to grow up with confidence and competence. To respect a child means to nurture that child with the health care and schooling that he or she needs to get the right start in life.

Every time we dismiss the potential of a child because of skin color, parental income, or family background, we betray our own futures.

We must also appreciate the contributions of every woman, instead of pigeon-holing and categorizing women in ways that limit their potential. To truly respect a woman means to respect and protect her human rights; it means to respect the choices she makes for herself and her family; and it means to value the experience she brings to all facets of life.

Second, institutions must change, and so must the ways we go about our everyday business.

If programs and policies have outlived their usefulness, we should admit that they no longer solve the problems they were meant to solve. We must fix programs that don't work with reforms that are efficient and inexpensive. And we must insist that institutions -- whether government, schools, or health care systems -- overcome bureaucratic intransigence and put people first.

We must also take advantage of the many innovative programs that do exist throughout our hemisphere. Prior to arriving in Paraguay today, I was in Brasilia, where President and Mrs. Cardoso told me about Brazil's efforts to improve the quality of primary education.

I then traveled on to Salvador da Bahia, where an extraordinary effort is underway to channel the potential and energy of thousands of street children. One program I saw was a circus in which the performers were children, some as young as eight, who had been recruited off the streets where they lived.

They were not being trained for circus jobs; their performances were merely a vehicle for learning the value of discipline, teamwork, and hard work. Along the way, these children develop confidence, self-esteem, and pride in their accomplishments. Part of a program called Project Axe, they also receive schooling and vocational training, as well as counseling to reunite them with their families.

I asked one 15-year-old boy, who had been with the project since it began five years ago, whether it had made a difference in his life. If not for the project, he said, "I would be dead or in prison now."

Programs like this one, which receive support from the public and private sectors and some international organizations, can be replicated widely. But that requires us to share information, exchange ideas, discuss honestly our successes and failures, and learn as much as we can from each other.

Government has a vital role in all of this. But government is only effective if it listens to the voices of the people it serves, instead of making decisions based on political convenience or whim. And government must be held accountable for meeting human needs.

At the same time, government cannot address every problem alone. We must not look on government as a panacea, but as an able partner of business, non-governmental organizations, and other private institutions committed to investing in the promise of every person, including those who are poor, disadvantaged, and politically powerless. And one of the best things government can do is to make it easier for outside groups, non-governmental groups, to do the work they are willing to do.

Finally, as societies, we must be willing to move beyond inertia to action. And all of us -- individuals and institutions -- must heed that call to action.We must start by taking responsibility within our own families and then spreading that responsibility to the communities in which we live.

Every segment of society has a stake in this issue. And every segment of society can affect positive change.

Schools, for example, can be more flexible in responding to the needs of their students, young and old.

A few days ago, in Santiago, Mrs. Frei took me to a school that embodies the Chilean commitment to building an educational system for the future. I saw boys and girls busy working on computers hooked up to the Internet.

I learned from the Minister of Education that schools may begin to keep their doors open on Saturdays and Sundays to

accommodate the children of working parents who have no alternatives for child care, and for children who wish to acquire new skills for themselves.

I saw that Chile has not been content to stick with old methods that do not work. The government and people of that country are devising new ways of training teachers, involving parents and communities. All of this is happening now in many countries throughout the Americas and more can happen if we are willing to learn from each other's experiences.

Heeding the call to action also means that financial institutions must serve all people, even if they are poor, live in remote areas, or are women. How much more evidence do we need that women are a good credit risk? I have seen the proof myself at the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, where the poorest of the poor in the world have transformed entire villages by taking out small loans for cows, rickshaws, and other items they use to earn an income.

I have even seen it in my own country, where poor women at a project called Mi Casa, in Denver, Colorado, have banded together to take out small loans to help themselves. And they told me very,very directly how difficult it is for women even in the United States to have access to credit. One woman said: "Too many great ideas die in the parking lots of banks."

But all over this hemisphere, women are overcoming these obstacles. In Nicaragua, which I visited at the beginning of my trip, I saw how hard President Chamorro has worked to strengthen democratic institutions and promote a market economy. And I met thirty women from a very poor barrio in Managua who run a bank in their neighborhood, borrowing small sums of money to start their own businesses, to start a bakery, to make mosquito netting, to be a seamstress.

Not only had these women organized themselves to improve their own circumstances, they were also improving the circumstances of their families and communities.

Furthermore, they have, like every bank I have ever visited, a high loan repayment rate. In that particular neighborhood bank, the repayment rate was 100 percent. And from what I know about banking, that would be the envy of many commercial lenders.

Individual men and women need to change attitudes and then act, just as every branch of society.

Businesses can initiate policies, such as flexible work schedules, child care,
and the use of modern technology, that enable employees to perform well on the job and continue to fulfill their family obligations. Businesses also can value women by paying women equal salaries for

equal work with their men employees.

The media can assume greater responsibility for the values it transmits by avoiding negative advertising and television programming that sensationalizes violence and glorifies the exploitation and degradation of women and children.

At this conference, we will examine these issues, and we will focus specifically on what can be done to address the pressing health and education of women and children.

We will discuss initiatives to ensure the elimination of diseases that primarily affect women and children, reduce maternal mortality and provide comprehensive health care to women throughout their lifetimes, including family planning. We will talk about what every nation must do to ensure that girls are guaranteed the right to an education and that all citiz
ens acquire the knowledge and skills they will all need in the new global economy.

And we will explore ways to end the problem of domestic violence, which has destroyed the lives of too many women and their families in every country represented here.

I would like to make one final point about our agenda. Because we are talking about the issues that matter most in the lives of women and children does not mean we are not talking about the lives of men and boys.

When I was in Nicaragua, I noticed billboards along the side of the road. They showed the face of a crying child with the caption: "My father has left the home." The problem of the absent father is as tragic as the problem of the undervalued mother and wife. It is a problem that, in the United States, we are urgently trying to address.

If, as a hemisphere, we truly care about strong families, strong communities, and strong societies, we have to recognize that men and women can and must complement each other inside and outside of the home. We should not be at opposite poles; we should be partners in a common enterprise for the good of all of us, and particularly our children.

Because of the roles that the women here and many of you in this hall have, we know we can help initiate the changes that must take place if we ever want to realize the great potential of this hemisphere.

Like the women I have met all over this hemisphere in Canada, in my country, in Mexico, in Nicaragua, in Chile, in Brazil and here in Paraguay, we come together to pool our experiences and

ideas to improve conditions for our individual families as well as our national family and the family of nations.

I was not present at the earlier conferences, but I want to thank and applaud all of the women who took part in those conferences and who have moved this agenda forward. I was privileged to host our meeting in Miami and I look forward to the work ahead of us. It is the most exciting and challenging work any of us can imagine or be engaged in. And it is work in which we can make a difference.

Thank you very much.

###

background notes

Brazil

March 1995



Official Name:
'erative Republic of Brazil

PROFILE

Geography

Area: 8,511,965 sq. km. (3,290,000 sq. mi.).
Cities: *Capital*—Brasilia (pop. 1.8 million).
Other cities: Sao Paulo (11 million), Rio de Janeiro (6 million), Belo Horizonte (2.3 million), Salvador (2 million), Fortaleza (1.8 million), Recife (1.4 million), Porto Alegre (1.4 million), Curitiba (1.4 million).
Terrain: Dense forests in northern regions, incl. Amazon Basin; semiarid along northeast coast; mountains, hills, and rolling plains in the southwest (incl. Mato Grosso); and coastal strip.
Climate: Mostly tropical or semitropical with temperate zone in the south.

People

Nationality: *Noun and adjective*—Brazilian(s).
Population: 155 million.
Annual growth rate: 2.1%.
Ethnic groups: Portuguese, Italian, German, Japanese, African, Indians (principally Tupi and Guarani linguistic stock).
Religion: Roman Catholic (80%).
Education: *Literacy*—81% of adult population.
Health: *Infant mortality rate*—58/1,000. *Life expectancy*—66 yrs.
Work force (65 million): *Services*—40%. *Agriculture*—35%. *Industry*—25%.

Government

Type: Federative Republic.
Independence: September 7, 1822.
Constitution: Promulgated October 5, 1988.
Branches: *Executive*—president (chief of state and head of government) popularly elected to a single 4-year term. *Legislative*—Senate (81 members popularly elected to 8-year terms), Chamber of Deputies (513 members popularly elected to 4-year terms). *Judicial*—Supreme Federal Tribunal.
Political parties: Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB), National Reconstruction Party (PRN), Liberal Front Party (PFL), Democratic Social Party (PDS), Democratic Workers Party (PDT), Workers Party (PT), Brazilian Labor Party (PTB), Liberal Party (PL), Brazilian Socialist Party (PSB), Communist Party of Brazil (PC do B), Progressive Renewal Party (PPR), Progressive Party (PP), Popular Socialist Party (PPS), Progressive Renewal Party PRP, Progressive Party (PP), Popular Socialist Party (PPS).
Suffrage: Compulsory from 18-70.
Subdivisions: 26 states, Federal District of Brasilia.

Economy (1993)

GDP: $456 billion.
Annual real growth rate: 5%.
Per capita GDP: $3,000.
Natural resources: Iron ore, manganese, bauxite, nickel, uranium, gemstones, oil.
Agriculture (11% of GDP): *Products*—coffee, soybeans, sugarcane, cocoa, rice, beef, corn, oranges, cotton, wheat.
Industry: *Types*—steel, chemicals, petrochemicals, machinery, motor vehicles, consumer durables, cement, lumber, shipbuilding.
Trade: *Exports*—$38.7 billion. *Major markets*—U.S. 21%, Argentina 9%, Japan 6%, Netherlands 6%, Germany 5%, France 4%, Italy 4%. *Imports*—$25.7 billion. *Major suppliers*—U.S. 24%, Argentina 9%, Germany 9%, Japan 8%, France 4%.
Official exchange rate: 0.92 Reals=U.S.$1 (Rate stable). ■

United States Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs
Office of Public Communication

PEOPLE AND HISTORY

With an estimated population of nearly [illegible]ion, Brazil is the most populous in Latin America and ranks [illegible]th in the world. Most of the people live in the south-central area, which includes the industrial cities of Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and Belo Horizonte. Urban growth has been rapid; by 1991 the urban sector represented 75% of the total population. Increased urbanization has aided economic development but has also created serious social and political problems for major cities.

Four major groups make up the Brazilian population: the Portuguese, who began colonizing in the 16th century; indigenous Indians of Tupi and Guarani language stock; Africans brought to Brazil as slaves; and various Europeans and Asian immigrant groups that have settled in Brazil since the mid-19th century. The Portuguese often intermarried with the Indians; marriage with slaves was common. Although the major European ethnic stock of Brazil was once Portuguese, subsequent waves of immigration have contributed to a rich ethnic and cultural heritage.

[illegible]m 1875 until 1960, about 5 million [illegible]ans emigrated to Brazil, settling [illegible] in the four southern states of Sao Paulo, Parana, Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul. Immigrants have also come from Italy, Germany, Spain, Japan, Poland, and the Middle East. The largest Japanese community outside Japan is in Sao Paulo. Despite class distinctions, national identity is strong, and racial friction is a relatively new phenomenon.

Indigenous full-blooded Indians, located mainly in the northern and western border regions and in the upper Amazon Basin, constitute less than 1% of the population. Their numbers are declining as contact with the outside world and commercial expansion into the interior increase. Brazilian Government programs to establish reservations for them and to provide other forms of assistance have existed for years but are controversial and often ineffective.

Brazil is the only Portuguese-speaking nation in the Americas. About 80% belong to the Roman Catholic Church, although many Brazilians [illegible]e to Protestantism and spiritual-

Some recent archeological research suggests that Brazil may have been inhabited for 30,000 to 40,000 years, but most archeologists agree on dates between 10,000 and 20,000 years. In addition, speculation continues that the Brazilian coast may have been visited by 15th century Portuguese explorers who ranged widely in the South Atlantic, while trading with Africa and settling the Azores and Madeira Islands.

Brazil was formally claimed in 1500 by the Portuguese navigator Pedro Alvares Cabral. It was ruled from Lisbon as a colony until 1808, when the Portuguese royal family, having fled from Napoleon's army, established the seat of government in Rio de Janeiro. Brazil became a kingdom under Dom Joao VI, who returned to Portugal in 1821, leaving his son, the prince Dom Pedro, as regent. The prince successfully declared Brazil's independence on September 7, 1822, and became emperor with the title of Dom Pedro I. His son, Dom Pedro II, ruled from 1831 to 1889, when a federal republic was established in a coup by Deodoro da Fonseca, marchal of the army. Slavery had been abolished a year earlier by the acting Regent Princess Isabel while Dom Pedro II was in Europe.

From 1889 to 1930, the government was a constitutional democracy, the presidency alternating between the dominant states of Sao Paulo and Minas Gerais. This period ended with a military coup that placed Getulio Vargas, a civilian, in the presidency; Vargas remained as dictator until 1945. From 1945 to 1961, Eurico Dutra, Vargas, Juscelino Kubitschek, and Janio Quadros were elected presidents. When Quadros resigned in 1961, he was succeeded by Vice President Joao Goulart.

Goulart's years in office were marked by high inflation, economic stagnation, and the increasing influence of radical political elements. The armed forces, alarmed by these developments, staged a coup on March 31, 1964. The coup leaders chose as president Humberto Castello Branco, followed by Arthur da Costa e Silva (1967-69), Emilio Garrastazu Medici (1969-74), and Ernesto Geisel (1974-79) all of whom were senior army officers. Geisel began a liberalization which was carried further by his successor, Gen. Jose Baptista de Oliveira Figueiredo (1979-85). Figueiredo not only permitted the return of politicians exiled or banned from political activity during the 1960s and 1970s but also allowed them to run for state and federal offices in 1982.

An electoral college, however, consisting of all members of congress and six delegates chosen from each state, continued to choose the president. In January 1985, the electoral college voted Tancredo Neves from the opposition Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB) into office as President. However, Tancredo Neves became ill in March and died a month later. His Vice President, former Senator Jose Sarney, became President upon Neves' death.

Brazil completed its transition to a popularly elected government in 1989, when Fernando Collor de Mello won 53% of the vote in the first direct presidential election in 29 years. In 1992 a major corruption scandal led to the impeachment and ultimate resignation of President Collor de Mello. Consistent with the Brazilian constitution, Vice President Itamar Franco took office and governed for the remainder of his term in office culminating in the 1994 presidential elections, when Fernando Henrique Cardoso was elected President. In national elections held October 3, 1994, Fernando Henrique Cardoso was elected President with 54% of the vote. He took office January 1, 1995. President Cardoso has indicated that his key goals are to establish a basis for long-term stability and growth and to improve Brazil's socio-economic imbalances. His proposals to Congress include constitutional amendments for solidifying the economic stabilization program.

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Brazil is a federative republic with broad powers granted to the federal government. A constituent assembly drafted a new constitution in late 1988. At the national level, the constitution establishes a presidential system with three branches—executive, legislative, and judicial.

The president is assisted by a vice president (elected with the president), a presidentially appointed cabinet, and specialized administrative and advisory bodies.

The bicameral National Congress consists of 81 Senators (three for each state and the federal district) elected to eight-year terms, and 513 deputies elected at large in each state to four-year

terms. The elections are based on proportional representation weighted in favor of less populous states.

The apex of the judicial system is the Supreme Federal Tribunal, whose 11 justices, including the chief justice, are appointed by the president to serve until age 70.

Brazil is divided administratively into 27 states and a federal district, Brasilia. The framework of state and local governments closely parallels that of the federal government. Governors are elected for four-year terms. A federal revenue sharing system, in place since the 1988 constitution, provides states with considerable resources.

The federal district, which moved from Rio de Janeiro to Brasilia in April 1960, is governed by a governor and a vice governor, both of whom will be chosen in direct elections.

Brazil's major parties are:

Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB): Brazil's largest party, a loosely-knit coalition of politicians from across the political spectrum. It elected federal deputies in all 27 states and the federal district in 1990.

Liberal Front Party (PFL): the country's second largest party and the best on the center-right. The PFL is strongest in small and medium-sized towns, particularly in the impoverished northeast and Amazon regions. The PFL was founded in 1985 by dissidents of the military-created Democratic Social Party.

Brazilian Social Democracy Party (PSDB): formed in 1988 by dissidents of the PMDB, the PSDB espouses a center-left social democratic agenda. PSDB leaders, including Fernando Henrique Cardoso, support a free market economy with greater government involvement in such social areas as health care and education.

Workers' Party (PT): formed in 1979, the PT is Brazil's European-style leftist party, with a clearly defined ideology, strict party discipline, hierarchical structure, and extensive grassroots organization. It is strongest among intellectuals, organized labor, and the economically disadvantaged. It draws considerable support from the liberation-theology wing of the Catholic Church and from the 4-million-member labor confederation, the Sole Workers Central. The PT is headed by party founder Luis Ignacio Lula da Silva, a presidential candidate in 1989 and 1994.

Progressive Renewal Party (PPR): formed in 1993, the PPR represents a merger between Paulo Maluf's former Democratic Social Party and the Christian Democratic Party. The party is based primarily in the more industrialized south and southeast and includes many former supporters of Brazil's military government. The PPR is a center-right party that generally supports free market reforms.

Progressive Party (PP): founded in 1993 as a merger of the Renovating Workers' Party and the Social Workers' Party, two splinter center-right parties formed in 1990 to support the gubernatorial campaigns of several local politicians. The PP claims to support market-oriented policies and is strong in a handful of states, such as Parana, and in the federal district.

Democratic Workers Party (PDT): a populist party founded by Leonel Brizola in 1980. The PDT is strongest in Rio de Janeiro and Rio Grande do Sul, states where Brizola served as governor. Much of its support come from urban and rural poor. PDT members usually stress a greater role for the government in tackling Brazil's pressing social problems.

Brazilian Labor Party (PTB): founded in 1945, a populist party that no longer has a major national leader or following. Its appeal is limited to several western states, such as Mato Grosso do Sul and Roraima.

Liberal Party (PL): a center-right party popular among small businessmen at the state and local level in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. The party advocates a minimum role for the state in economic affairs and is a staunch proponent of a flat tax on businesses and individuals.

National Reconstruction Party (PRN): formed in 1988 and Collor's personal vehicle for his 1989 presidential bid. Following Collor's impeachment in late 1992, PRN membership in congress dropped considerably.

Popular Socialist Party (PPS): the former Brazilian Communist Party, renamed in 1992 in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union. The PPS espouses Marxist doctrine but frequently cooperates with other center-left parties.

Communist Party of Brazil (PC do B): avoided modifying its Soviet-style platform since the end of the Cold War. It has participated, though minimally, in the 1989 and 1994 electoral coalitions formed to support the PT presidential candidate.

Brazilian Socialist Party (PSB): founded in 1946, the PSB, a leftist party with one senator and 11 deputies.

Brazil also has several dozen smaller parties, some of which (e.g. National Mobilization Party—PMN, and the Social Christian Party—PSC) command a following in a handful of states.

Principal Government Officials

President—Fernando Henrique Cardoso
Vice Presiden—Marco Maciel
Foreign Affairs—Luis Felipe Lampreia
Ambassador to the U.S.—
Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima
Ambassador to the UN—
Celso Amorim
Ambassador to the OAS—
Luis Agosto de Araujo Castro

Brazil maintains an embassy in the United States at 3006 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008 (tel. 202-745-2700). Brazil maintains consulates general in New Orleans, New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, and consulates in Miami, Houston, Dallas, San Francisco, and Atlanta.

ECONOMY

Brazil is a country rich in resources and natural advantages, but its economic performance has lagged behind its potential. Economically, it is a country of contrasts ranging from sophisticated economic centers around Sao Paulo to relatively undeveloped trading outposts in the northern region. Industrial development has been concentrated in the southeastern states of Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Parana, and Rio Grande do Sul but is now expanding to include the northeast and center west.

In 1993, Brazil's gross domestic product (GDP) totaled $456 billion, with an estimated per capita GDP of $3,000. In 1993, economic growth was 5%; growth for 1994 is estimated to reach 3%.

Agriculture, Industry, and Natural Resources

About one-half of Brazil is covered by forests. The largest rainforest in the world is located in the Amazon Basin and is so impressive in character and extent that the entire Amazon region is

identified with it. Recent migrations into the Amazon and controversial large-scale burning of forests areas placed the international spotlight on Brazil. The government has subsequently reduced incentives for such activity and has begun to implement an ambitious environmental plan.

Eastern Brazil has tropical and semideciduous forests and soil of limited agricultural value; the nutrients in the small amount of humus usually are exhausted after only a few years of farming. The softwood forests of the southern highlands still provide a substantial portion of the construction timber used in Brazil. However, fears that these forests are being cut down so fast that they are in danger of extinction within the next few decades have led the industry to move north. Major timber supplies for domestic and export markets now come from the tropical hardwoods of the Amazon. The thorn forests of the northeast interior contain dry, cactus-infested, drought-resistant vegetation, its sparseness due as much to overgrazing and overcultivation as to the unreliability of rainfall.

In Central Brazil, the states of Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Goias, and Minas Gerais and Sao Paulo substantial areas of grassland, with only scattered trees. Unlike the plains of North America, the Brazilian grasslands are less fertile, and large areas of these grasslands are best suited to pastures.

The agricultural sector employs 35% of Brazil's population and accounts for about 11% of its GDP and almost 40% of the country's exports. Except for wheat, Brazil is largely self-sufficient in food. It is the world's leading exporter of coffee, orange juice concentrate, and tobacco, and is the second largest exporter of sugar and soybeans.

During the past decade, in an effort to expand its agricultural exports, Brazil began opening new regions to cultivation. The most important of these are devoted to soybean production in Mato Grosso and Bahia, and, more recently, Minas Gerais and Goias. Brazil also has expanded cultivation of sugarcane, the raw material used to produce ethyl alcohol fuel that powers 40% of the nation's cars.

Brazil's power, transportation, and communications systems generally have kept pace with development. However, in recent years, facilities in some areas have not met demand, due to lack of investment and maintenance funds. The country has a large and increasingly sophisticated industrial base, producing basic industrial products such as steel, chemicals, and petrochemicals and finished consumer goods and aircraft. A computer industry is also emerging. Within the past decade, industry has been the greatest contributor to economic growth. Today, it accounts for nearly 36% of GDP and 75% of exports.

Brazil is one of the world's leading producers of hydroelectric power, with a potential of 106,500 megawatts. Existing hydroelectric plants provide 90% of the nation's electricity. Two large hydro-electrical projects, the 12,600-megawatt Itaipu Dam on the Parana River—the world's largest dam—and the Tucurui Dam in Para in northern Brazil are in operation.

Brazil's first commercial nuclear reactor, Angra I, located near Rio de Janeiro, has been in operation for more than 10 years. Angra II and III are under construction. With a combined capacity of 1,245 megawatts, these are the first of eight nuclear plants planned under the 1975 nuclear accord between Germany and Brazil. However, continued troubles with Angra I and scarce funds have slowed construction of nuclear plants, limiting further expansion for the foreseeable future.

Proven mineral resources are extensive. Large iron and manganese reserves provide important sources of industrial raw materials and export earnings. Deposits of nickel, tin, chromite, bauxite, beryllium, copper, lead, tungsten, zinc, and gold, as well as lesser known minerals, are exploited. High-quality coal, especially of the coking grade required in the steel industry, is in short supply.

The Brazilian Government has undertaken an ambitious program to reduce dependence on imported oil. Imports previously accounted for more than 70% of the country's oil needs but now account for less than 50%. In addition to developing hydroelectric, nuclear, and coal resources, Brazil has become a world leader in the development of alcohol fuel derived from sugarcane. Brazilian automotive gasoline is a mixture containing up to 22% ethyl alcohol. Its auto manufacturers began large-scale production of 100% alcohol-powered cars in 1979, and today more than 3 million are on the road. Alcohol production has not always kept pace, however, leading to alcohol shortages in 1989-1990. Alcohol subsidies were reduced in the early 1990s, and car makers have begun to increase production of gasoline-powered automobiles.

Government Economic Strategy

Following the 1964 coup, the Brazilian Government focused on two major economic goals, high growth rates and control of inflation. Sustained economic growth continued into the 1970s.

By the late 1970s, escalating oil prices, governmental indebtedness, and high interest rates brought the Brazilian economy to a virtual standstill. Throughout the 1980s, these problems were attacked through a number of programs emphasizing reduced government expenditures and subsidies and income tax increases. Nevertheless, budget deficits have persisted. The combined public sector deficit in 1993 was at least 2% of GDP.

On July 1, 1994, Brazil introduced its fifth currency in seven years, the "Real," as part of an economic stabilization plan designed to curb once-again rampant inflation, which reached an annual level of nearly 5,000% at the end of 1993. Other facets of the plan include balancing the budget, privatization of state-run industries, and strict monetary controls.

Foreign direct investment represents a relatively small but important part of Brazil's capital base. The share of foreign direct investment and reinvestment totals $8.7 billion, largely in manufacturing and finance. The constitution restricts the entry of new foreign investors in the financial services area, although U.S. and other foreign institutions established before the prohibition continue to have a prominent share. The constitution also contains provisions that restrict investment in petroleum and minerals exploration, health care, chemicals, biotechnology, and new materials. It is believed by many economists, however, that long-term stabilization will require further structural reforms as well as revision of the constitution.

Travel and Business Information

The U.S. Department of State's Consular Information Program provides Travel Warnings and Consular Information Sheets. Travel Warnings are issued when the Department of State recommends that Americans avoid travel to a certain country. Consular Information Sheets exist for all countries and include information on immigration practices, currency regulations, health conditions, areas of instability, crime and security information, political disturbances, and the addresses of the U.S. embassies and consulates in the subject country. They can be obtained by telephone at (202) 647-5225 or by fax at (202) 647-3000. To access the Consular Affairs Bulletin Board by computer, dial (202) 647-9225, via a modem with standard settings. Bureau of Consular Affairs' publications on obtaining passports and planning a safe trip abroad are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (202) 783-3238.

Emergency information concerning Americans traveling abroad may be obtained from the Office of American Citizens Services and Crisis Management at (202) 647-5225.

While planning a trip, travelers can check the latest information on health requirements and conditions with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. A hotline at (404) 332-4559 provides telephonic or fax information on the most recent health advisories, immunization recommendations or requirements, and advice on food and drinking water safety for regions and countries. A booklet entitled *Health Information for International Travel* (HHS publication number CDC-94-8280, price $7.00) is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, tel. (202) 512-1800.

Information on travel conditions, visa requirements, currency and customs regulations, legal holidays, and other items of interest to travelers also may be obtained before your departure from a country's embassy and/or consulates in the U.S. (for this country, see "Principal Government Officials" listing in this publication).

Upon their arrival in a country, U.S. citizens are encouraged to register with the U.S. embassy (see "Principal U.S. Embassy Officials" listing in this publication). Such information might assist family members in making contact en route in case of an emergency.

Further Electronic Information:

Consular Affairs Bulletin Board (CABB). Available by modem, the CABB provides Consular Information Sheets, Travel Warnings, and helpful information for travelers. Access at (202) 647-9225 is free of charge to anyone with a personal computer, modem, telecommunications software, and telephone line.

Department of State Foreign Affairs Network. Available on the Internet, DOSFAN provides timely, global access to official U.S. foreign policy information. Updated daily, DOSFAN includes *Background Notes; Dispatch*, the official weekly magazine of U.S. foreign policy; daily press briefings; directories of key officers of foreign service posts; etc. DOSFAN is accessible three ways on the Internet:

Gopher: dosfan.lib.uic.edu

URL: gopher://dosfan.lib.uic.edu/

WWW: http://dosfan.lib.uic.edu/dosfan.html.

U.S. Foreign Affairs on CD-ROM (USFAC). Published on a quarterly basis by the U.S. Department of State, USFAC archives information on the *Department of State Foreign Affairs Network*, and includes an array of official foreign policy information from 1990 to the present. Priced at $80 ($100 foreign), one year subscriptions include four discs (MSDOS and Macintosh compatible) and are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 37194, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. To order, call (202) 512-1800 or fax: (202) 512-2250.

Federal Bulletin Board (BBS). A broad range of foreign policy information also is carried on the BBS, operated by the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO). By modem, dial (202) 512-1387. For general BBS information, call (202) 512-1530.

National Trade Data Bank (NTDB). Operated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the NTDB contains a wealth of trade-related information, including *Country Commercial Guides*. NTDB is available on the Internet (gopher. stat-usa.gov) and on CD-ROM. Call the NTDB Help-Line at (202) 482-1986 for more information. ❑

Trade and Investment

Foreign direct investment and reinvestment in Brazil (registered with Central Bank as of June 30, 1993) is $41.9 billion. Sources include the U.S. $13.6 billion (33%); Germany $6.1 billion (14%) Japan $4 billion (9%) U.K. $2.3 billion (5%), Canada $1.7 billion (4%), and Switzerland $1.7 billion (4%).

Brazil's industrial development strategy contributed to significant growth and, in the late 1980s, to large trade surpluses. The country recorded a $19 billion surplus in 1988 and $16 billion in 1989—a remarkable turnaround from the deficits experienced at the beginning of the decade. Surpluses for 1992 and 1993 were $15 billion and $13 billion respectively.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Traditionally, Brazil has been a leader in the inter-American community and has played an important role in collective security efforts as well as in economic cooperation in the Western Hemisphere. Brazil aligned with the allies in both World Wars and, during World War II, its expeditionary force in Italy played a key role in the allied victory at Monte Castello. It is a party to the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Treaty) and the Organization of American States (OAS). Recently, Brazil has given high priority to expanding relations with its South American neighbors and is a founding member of the Amazon Pact; the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)—the successor to the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA); and MERCOSUL (Spanish is MERCOSUR)—uniting Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil.

Brazil is a charter member of the United Nations and participates in many of its specialized agencies. It held a two-year Security Council seat through the end of 1994. It has contributed troops to UN peacekeeping efforts in the Middle

East, the former Belgian Congo, Cyprus, Mozambique, and Angola.

As Brazil's domestic economy has [illegible] and diversified, the country has [illegible]e increasingly involved in international politics and economics. The United States, Western Europe, and Japan are primary markets for Brazilian exports and sources of foreign lending and investment. Brazil's dependence on imported petroleum has resulted in more intensive political and economic ties with Middle Eastern countries. In the 1970s, Brazil expanded its relations with sub-Saharan African countries. In 1986, it introduced a proposal at the UN General Assembly to establish a Zone of Peace and Cooperation in the South Atlantic. As an indication of Brazil's broader international role, trade with other developing countries increased from 9% of the total in the 1970s to nearly 30% in 1993. In the past year, Brazil has also bolstered its commitment to nuclear nonproliferation through the signing of a full scale nuclear safeguard agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and through ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

U.S.-BRAZILIAN RELATIONS

[illegible]nited States was the first country [illegible]ognize Brazil's independence in [illegible]. Brazil's 19th-century leader, Emperor Dom Pedro II, admired Abraham Lincoln and visited the United States during the 1876 centennial. Presidents Roosevelt and Truman made earlier visits; President Carter visited in 1978, President Reagan in 1982, and President Bush in 1990. President Sarney visited the United States in 1986, and President Collor came to Washington in 1991.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Brazil received about $2.4 billion in U.S. economic assistance—$1.4 billion under the auspices of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the remainder under P.L. 480 (Food for Peace) and Peace Corps programs.

In view of Brazil's impressive economic development and its increased ability to obtain loans and technical assistance from private and multilateral sources, U.S. assistance programs were phased out in the 1970s, major USAID activities in Brazil ended in 1979, and the Peace Corps program was ended in 1980. Currently, USAID maintains a small advanced developing country program that emphasizes cooperation on environment, health, and family planning and responds to endemic disease, emergencies, and natural disasters.

The United States is Brazil's most important commercial partner and largest investor. The U.S. share of Brazilian trade averages 23%, and two-way trade amounted to $13.3 billion in 1993. Brazil's lack of intellectual property protection (especially patents in certain areas) led to frictions with the United States and other major trading partners in 1993. These came to a head in 1994, when the United States named Brazil in formal trade actions on two occasions under U.S. trade law. The U.S. objective was to stimulate negotiations as well as appropriate action by Brazil to protect intellectual property rights. For its part, Brazil is critical of the United States for high U.S. tariffs on products such as steel and orange juice, which Brazil exports. Recent efforts by both sides have begun to reduce the tensions arising from these issues.

Bilateral agreements between Brazil and the United States include a treaty of peace and friendship; an extradition treaty; a joint participation agreement on communication satellites; and, scientific cooperation, civil aviation, and maritime agreements. Brazil and the United States exchange professors under Fulbright and other academic programs and carry out university cooperation projects.

Principal U.S. Embassy Officials

Ambassador—Melvyn Levitsky
Deputy Chief of Mission—Mark Lore
Defense Attache—
Col. Layton Dunbar, U.S. Army
Economic Counselor—
Paul Wackerbarth
Commercial Counselor—Richard Ades
Political Counselor—
Theodore Wilkinson
Science Counselor—Roy Simpkins
Public Affairs Counselor (USIS)—
Carl Howard
Consul General in Rio de Janeiro—
David Zweifel
Consul General in Sao Paulo—
Philip Taylor

The U.S. embassy in Brazil is located at Avenida das Nacoes Sul, Quadra 801, Lote 3, Brasília, DF, CEP 70403-900 (tel. 061 321-7272, telex 061-1091).

U.S. consulates general are in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. Consulates are at Porto Alegre and Recife. Consular agents are in Manaus, Sao Luis, Belem, and Salvador da Bahia. Branch offices of the U.S. Information Service (USIS) are located in Brasília, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Recife. Branch offices of the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service are located in Brasília, Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte and Belem. ■

Published by the U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs • Office of Public Communication • Washington, DC
March 1995• Managing Editor:
Peter A. Knecht

Department of State Publication 7756
Background Notes series • This material is in the public domain and may be reprinted without permission; citation of this source is appreciated.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402

US-Brazilian Relations

Relations with Brazil are the best they have been in years, thanks to generally congruent political and economic visions, and new leadership provided by President Fernando Henrique Cardoso. Cardoso represents a return to the market-oriented reforms initiated in 1990 by then-President Collor but slowed by his impeachment two years later. Brazil has traditionally taken a "Third World" stance in the international arena, but Cardoso now prefers greater engagement with the United States and Europe. His aim is to make Brazil a major global player. In this context, Brazil is seeking to obtain a permanent seat on an expanded UN Security Council.

Cardoso's State Visit to Washington last April personified the new cooperative spirit between the hemisphere's largest democracies. While differences remain on trade issues and UN security council expansion, we are cooperating effectively in many areas: the GOB contributes to peace-keeping missions, such as Angola where a 1,200-man contingent is now serving; Brazil is helping on implementation of the Summit of the Americas action plan by taking on a coordinating role on democracy and human rights.

Notably, we are working together on formerly contentious issues such as nuclear nonproliferation, the environment, human rights and counternarcotics. Brazil has made significant strides on nonproliferation, adopting full scope nuclear safeguards and ratifying the Treaty of Tlatelolco. Its commitments on export controls and the peaceful uses of its space launch vehicle program enabled the United States to support in principle Brazilian membership in the Missile Technology Control Regime. We are about to sign a "Common Agenda" for environmental cooperation. Brazil and the United States signed a bilateral counternarcotics agreement in conjunction with Cardoso's April visit.

On trade, while both countries have specific complaints -- chief for the United States are inadequate Intellectual Property Rights protection and WTO-illegal auto import restrictions -- we are attempting to look beyond these in a Bilateral Trade Review chaired by USTR Mickey Kantor and Foreign Minister Lampreia. The trend toward increased two-way trade and US investment is being reinforced by Cardoso's economic reforms. In recent years, Brazil has substantially lowered trade barriers and created a customs union -- the Southern Common Market or MERCOSUL -- with Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. While committed to our shared Summit of the Americas goal of establishing a Free Trade Area of the Americas by 2005, Brazil is in no hurry and is focused instead on strengthening MERCOSUL.

Brazil: Political and Social Overview

One of the largest democracies in the world with over 150 million people, Brazil has the world's tenth largest economy. A vast, decentralized federal republic, Brazil has 26 states and a federal district represented in a two-chamber legislature. Just ten years ago, Brazil emerged from two decades of military rule. Since then, democracy has shown its strength with the 1992 impeachment of a president charged with corruption, exposed by a free press.

In October 1994, President Cardoso swept to victory in elections thanks to the success of the economic reform program he designed as Finance Minister in the previous administration. By slowing inflation from virtually 50 percent a month down to two percent, Cardoso has given a generation of Brazilians price stability for the first time in their memory. Cardoso's ability to move quickly with other needed political and economic reforms is constrained by the necessity of dealing with unruly congressional allies from half a dozen parties, and the demands of parochial but powerful state governments.

Economic stabilization has been Cardoso's first priority, but he also stresses the importance of reducing social disparities, describing Brazil as a "rich but unjust" country. Although per capita income (USD 2,935 in 1992) ranks Brazil among medium-to-high income countries as classified by the World Bank, the poorest 20 percent of the population earn only 2 percent of national income while the richest tenth earn 51 percent. Land ownership is badly skewed, with just one percent of the population holding 45 percent of privately held lands. The land tenure situation can often lead to violence, such as the August 9 killing of 19 squatters in the Amazon frontier state of Rondonia.

Brazil is a multi-racial society, with 44 percent of the population identifying themselves as Afro-Brazilian or mixed race, and strong ethnic communities representing Italian, German, Arab and Japanese immigrants. What remains of Brazil's indigenous people, estimated to be 250,000, represents less than a sixth of one percent of the population. Afro-Brazilians and indigenous people are under-represented in the political system, and disproportionately poor.

Poverty afflicts Brazil with an infant mortality rate (58 per 1,000 births, but as high as 93 per 1,000 in the Northeast) that ranks Brazil among many less developed countries. Illiteracy was 18 percent in 1992, and 80 percent of Brazilian children never finish primary school. The contradiction between a nation pushing for space technology, yet lacking basic sanitation in many areas, is illustrative of the two Brazils that co-exist within one land.

Brazil: Economic Overview

After nearly two decades of rampant inflation, a bold stabilization program introduced in July 1994 has brought inflation down from a peak of 5,000 percent annually to the current level of 25-30 percent. Dubbed the "Plano Real" for the new currency, the "real," the program was the brainchild of then-Finance Minister (now President) Cardoso. Lower inflation has improved living standards, created a more stable business environment and strengthened investor confidence. Despite impressive results, control over inflation remains tenuous.

Anti-inflationary measures also have had their downside. Tight monetary policies have pushed up interest rates and slowed growth. The government now predicts 1995 GDP growth of 5.1 percent, down from an earlier estimate of 6.2 percent. Though President Cardoso recently argued that the unemployment rate for the first half of 1995 was the lowest it had ever been, increasing layoffs and furloughs in the automotive and other major industries have begun to stir labor unrest.

Other trouble signs are evident as well. The recent failure of Brazil's eighth largest bank exposed weaknesses in the financial structure. Most analysts believe that the banking system will weather the storm, but investors have been shaken, and are concerned by some of the measures taken to avoid a banking crisis.

Important trade liberalization policies began in 1990, and gained speed with major tariff cuts under the Uruguay Round. The more open, competitive economy is benefiting Brazil through both a wider availability of goods, and an improving trade balance. Brazil is the largest member of the Southern Common Market (Mercosul, in Portuguese) which, along with Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, and is taking good advantage of increased regional trade. Total merchandise trade showed a slight surplus in July for the first time in nine months.

The Brazilian Congress passed a series of "economic order" Constitutional reforms on August 15. If successfully implemented, these reforms would give more equitable treatment to foreign investment capital, break monopolies in several key industries and be an important step forward. Beyond these reforms, however, long-term success in the stabilization program may hinge on President Cardoso's ability to establish a sound fiscal foundation to the economy by pushing through much-needed tax and administrative reforms. His Administration submitted a package of such reforms to Congress on August 23.

Brazil: Education

Brazil's most serious need in education is improved quality in the primary grades. Some ten percent of all children ages 7-14 never set foot in schools. Only 20 percent of all students ever complete primary school. On average, children spend 8.4 years in primary school, but do not complete more than the fifth grade. At least 19 million Brazilians above the age of 15 are illiterate.

Poor quality schools are attributed to several factors: teachers are poorly paid (some earn only USD 36 a month in the Northeast), they lack training, the average spent overall on students is only USD 120 a year per child to provide just four hours a day in a classroom. Public schools do not equip graduates with the knowledge and skills for productive employment in an economy as sophisticated as Brazil's. Nor do they prepare students sufficiently for the highly competitive university exams.

Out of the 68 major universities in Brazil, 35 are federally funded, 13 are state- or city- supported, the rest private. Tuition-free public universities sag under the weight of bloated bureaucracy, chronic underfunding, and early faculty retirements. University enrollments total around 1.5 million undergraduate students, 28,000 master's candidates, and 7,500 doctoral students. Some 5,000 Brazilians are studying in US universities.

The Cardoso administration has announced a new effort to overcome basic-education deficiencies by tripling the funds spent per student and attempting to ensure decent salaries for teachers. The federal government wants to supplement state funds for basic education, but given the spending constraints of Brazil's economic stabilization program, this may be difficult to carry out. A new high-profile distance-education (extension) project, which offers teacher training and classroom programs by satellite, began in September 1995 in the 30,000 elementary schools with 100 or more students. A Ministry of Education delegation will travel to the United States in October to learn about US experiences with this type of program, a visit coordinated by the US Information Agency.

Key Issues

- How to direct scarce public funds to improve basic education and increase the number of children completing primary school.
- How to make education relevant to Brazil's job market and make public school students competitive in university exams.
- How to improve teacher training and use new technology to reach the classrooms.

Brazil: Women's Issues

The movement for women's equality has become a strong and vocal presence in Brazilian society over the past three decades. During the transition to democracy in the 1980s, a large number of women's groups were created to call publicly for women's rights and equality. Currently over 8,000 women's groups are registered in Brazil. Despite lively debate on diverging positions, the groups have formed networks that address four priority areas: health and reproductive rights, violence against women, communication and women and the environment.

USAID has provided support to women's groups in Brazil, especially through travel and training grants to promote networks.

At the Cairo and Beijing conferences, the strength of the organized women's movement in Brazil was evident from the participation in the preparatory process and on the official delegation. The Brazilian delegation to the Beijing Conference raised the following key issues with regard to the situation of women in Brazil.

Key Issues:

- Access to employment and salary levels are still different for men and women.
- A majority of Brazilians working in the informal sector of the economy or considered under-employed are women.
- The number of households headed by women has been increasing rapidly, especially among the poor.
- Women have little access to power and decision-making positions.
- Social and domestic violence are present in women's daily lives.
- Even though men and women have equal access to education, the system segregates men and women by area of occupation.
- Brazilian laws have not yet been revised to incorporate equal rights for men and women, as established by the 1988 constitution.
- Gender inequality is aggravated by social-economic, racial and ethnic differences.

Brazil: Population and Family Issues

Population growth in Brazil has slowed substantially, reflecting a rapid fertility decline that occurred between 1965 and 1990. The national total fertility rate is now estimated to be about 2.8 children per woman.

Contraceptive use is close to 70 percent. However, Brazilian women have limited options for controlling their fertility -- the pill and female sterilization account for over 90 percent of contraception. Few women obtain adequate information on how to use pills correctly; failure and discontinuation rates are high. Unplanned pregnancies and illegal abortion are widespread, and are particularly acute among adolescents.

For women who seek more reliable fertility control, the main alternative has been surgical sterilization. Many of these women might have opted for temporary methods had safe and reliable alternatives been available.

Northeastern Brazil, with about 30 percent of the country's total population, continues to lag behind the rest of the country. In 1991, the infant mortality rate in the northeast stood at 93.6 per 1,000 per year, with higher levels in rural areas. Maternal mortality is estimated at over 200 per 100,000 pregnancies. The total fertility rate in the region has declined, but in rural areas was nearly twice the national rate.

Brazil has no national family planning program as such, but rather a disjointed mix of access channels that led to high use levels but very poor service quality. Severe reproductive health problems have resulted.

NGO involvement in direct delivery of family planning services has been limited, though NGOs have played an important role in training and education. PAISM, a government-designed integrated women's health care program, aims to address many of these issues, but implementation has been slow and uneven. Donors, including USAID and UNFPA, are assisting poor northeastern states to accelerate implementation of PAISM.

Key Issues:

o How to increase contraceptive method options and, in particular, reduce reliance on female sterilization. How to eliminate the practice of routine sterilization in conjunction with caesarean delivery, commonly done because of incentives in health insurance plans.

o How to improve access to family planning information, reproductive health facilities and contraceptives in disadvantaged areas.

o Whether and how to develop a more comprehensive and better coordinated national family planning program, in concert with NGOs and international organizations.

Brazil: Children's Issues

The situation of children and youth in Brazil is precarious, with poverty causing many to make a living or actually live in the streets. The Inter-American Development Bank calculates that over 45 million Brazilians live below the poverty line, including 30 million under the age of 18. Defining "street children," is a difficult task, as they constitute a highly transient population. This at-risk population is subject to disease, drug abuse, delinquency, prostitution and human rights violations including summary executions by police and drug gangs.

Although a landmark law was passed in 1990 to guarantee the rights of children, the institutions charged with enforcing the law are not yet capable of doing this job effectively. Provisions against child labor have been ignored, especially by cottage industries providing piecework to shoe manufacturers and in rural areas, where children are exploited alongside their parents on sugar, sisal and charcoal plantations.

Non-governmental organizations (such as the National Movement of Street Boys and Girls, Projeto Axe, and the state Centers for Defense of Children's Rights) have led the way with innovative programs to assist children. They use street education models, in some areas emphasizing Afro-Brazilian cultural values, they integrate education with vocational training, give adolescent girls involved with prostitution education and vocational orientation and provide legal aid for victims of violence.

USAID has targeted assistance to low-income youth in Northeast Brazil through its "Youth at Risk" project, which seeks to strengthen the capacity of NGOs and local governments to provide preventive services, such as vocational training and community-based family therapy, support services to girls and adolescent women at risk of sexual exploitation and improvement in the administration of juvenile justice.

Key Issues:

- How to reduce child labor, especially in rural areas where migrant family labor is exploited by agrobusinesses.
- How to design educational programs that attract and hold children and adolescents because they offer better alternatives than life on the streets.
- How to mobilize Brazilian society to invest in the future of disadvantaged children and guarantee their legal rights.

Brazil: Health Issues

Despite its advanced developing country status, Brazil's health indicators lag behind advances in other sectors. Infant mortality, at 58 per 1,000, is considerably higher than that of many countries with lower average incomes. Maternal mortality, estimated at 160-200 per 100,000 pregnancies, is alarmingly high.

Over the past decade, the Brazilian government has implemented a massive reform of the public health care sector, to address severely unequal access to health care. The program has had three main objectives: 1) shifting responsibility for health care from the federal government to states and municipalities, 2) consolidating public health financing and 3) improving equity of access to health services.

The reforms have been partly successful in expanding overall access to health care, but efforts to improve equity have placed an enormous strain on government resources, which have not kept up with increases in patient demand. The Brazilian health system relies heavily on public reimbursement for privately-provided services. Only a small portion of health services, mainly for lower income groups, is extended through public facilities.

Under the health reform program, each state is responsible for its own municipal and state health services. The arrangement requires much larger financial transfers to states and municipalities than before. Ongoing budgetary crises, however, have made it difficult for local governments to meet these new responsibilities.

Reduced government funding has resulted in a decline in quality of care, and led to a sharp increase in private financing alternatives, especially among the middle class. Widespread corruption further weakens the fiscal base of the public health system. Establishment of a special tax to fund health care services remains a controversial proposal.

Key Issues:

- How to improve access to health care for all Brazilians.
- How to finance an equitable national health care system while containing costs.
- How to improve the quality of health care in Brazil, including preventive services.
- How to improve regulation of health care, to maintain good standards of care and reduce corruption.
- How to raise the quality of basic health care, particularly to reduce infant, child, and maternal mortality.

Brazil: Human Rights

Human rights violations in Brazil are serious and include the killing and abuse of street children, rural workers, indigenous people and prison inmates. Often, the judicial system fails to punish those responsible. In many cases, the crimes are carried out by on-duty or off-duty police. A special system of state "military police" courts contributes to the problem because these courts are slow to prosecute and rarely convict police officers. (The uniformed "military" police serve as army reserves but report to state governors, not the armed forces.)

One example is the case brought against 121 state police for the killing of 111 prisoners in Sao Paulo's Carandiru prison, October 2, 1992. Three years later, the special courts are still hearing testimony and those charged remain on active duty. Regular courts are often equally slow, as in the Rio de Janeiro cases of four off-duty police accused of murdering eight street children in 1993, which has yet to come to trial. More recently, on August 9, 1995, state police charged into a squatters' camp in the Amazonian region, killing 19 people.

Indigenous people, while numbering less than a sixth of one percent of the population, were guaranteed under the 1988 constitution the right to live on their traditional lands -- equal to one-tenth of Brazilian territory. Less than half their lands have been legally demarcated, and demarcation has not stopped the invasion of Indian lands by ranchers and gold miners. Without federal government action, violence, disease and despair are likely to further reduce the indigenous population.

President Cardoso has taken strong stands on many human rights problems by:

- Sending a bill to Congress making the government responsible for persons who "disappeared" for political reasons during the past military government and paying an indemnity to their families.

- Establishing an inter-agency task force between the Labor and Justice ministries to crack down on forced labor and child labor.

- Creating a human rights award to encourage activists, and calling on the Congress to give more power to the Human Rights Commission of the Justice Ministry. (The Congress set up its own Human Rights Committee this year.)

- Exhorting the Congress to pass laws defining the crime of torture.

- Setting up a new unit in the Federal Police to investigate cases of human rights abuse, and making human rights part of the police training curriculum.

Brazil: Overview of Mrs. Cardoso's Involvement in Social Welfare Issues

A sociologist and urban anthropologist, Mrs. Cardoso has long been active in social causes. Since 1985, she has been a senior researcher at the Sao Paulo-based Brazilian Center of Analysis and Planning (CEBRAP), where she coordinated studies on social movements, youth and policies to expand civic participation. As a member of the editorial board of the Sao Paulo journal "Novos Estudos" (New Studies) since 1982, she has focused on defining new ways to implement and manage social programs. Mrs. Cardoso has served as a member of the advisory board of the magazine "Estudos Feministas" (Feminist Studies) and as a counselor to the National Council on Women's Rights (1985-1989). She has authored numerous articles exploring solutions to Brazil's most significant social problems.

When President Cardoso took office in January 1995, he eliminated the ineffectual Ministry of Social Welfare. He created the Secretariat for Community Solidarity to coordinate social programs, overseeing various ministries addressing issues of health, nutrition, municipal services, employment and rural development. Cardoso named his wife to head the Secretariat's 21-person advisory council. The Secretariat has no budget of its own, but seeks to mobilize federal, state and local governments, in partnership with non-governmental organizations and international donors, to alleviate Brazil's most pressing social problems. To date, the Secretariat's most visible action has been to distribute food baskets in a small number of extremely needy communities.

The federal government's scope of social action has been hamstrung by Cardoso's necessary emphasis on economic stabilization and budget cuts to keep inflation under control.

NICARAGUA

FINCA BANK

SLIDE 1: Listening to presentation by a FINCA borrower.

- Through a $1.5 million grant from USAID, FINCA has established 98 community banks in Nicaragua. Its poverty lending program organizes groups of poor women into community banks, provides them small loans and trains them in leadership and basic business skills.

- I visited the Mothers United Bank, located in a barrio of Managua, during one of its weekly meetings, at which time the bank members make their loan payments and savings deposits. The bank extends loans to women to start up small businesses, increase their incomes, and better the welfare of their families. The women told me about the new livelihoods they had carved out for themselves and their families through baking, creating mosquito nets, making clothes, etc.

- The women there asked, "Tell us about the women in India." They also re-named the bank the "Hillary Clinton Bank" after I left.

SLIDE 2: Receiving bread from a FINCA borrower.

SLIDE 3: Receiving tortillas from a FINCA borrower.

PRESIDENT CHAMORRO'S RESIDENCE

SLIDE 4: Visiting with Mrs. Chamorro (looking at family photos)

- Mrs. Chamorro received me at her private residence. The U.S. supports Mrs. Chamorro's continuing efforts to rebuild her nation after the crippling civil war and natural disasters. Her government has worked to foster national reconciliation, build an enduring democracy, and provide a solid economic future for Nicaragua's people.

- Mrs. Chamorro played an important role in putting <u>women's issues</u> on the agenda at the Summit of the Americas.

SLIDE 5: Toast at luncheon with Chamorro's Social Cabinet.

- The lunch was attended by Chamorro's Social Cabinet, ministerial level officials in charge of directing the government's social policy, like those affecting children and health care.

SLIDE 6: Children dancing after the luncheon.

SPEECH TO NICARAGUAN WOMEN

SLIDE 7: Speaking to Nicaraguan women

THEMES:

- U.S. Commitment to Nicaragua
- Going to Paraguay to implement the conclusions of the Summit of the Americas
- Can prosperity, democracy and social justice go hand in hand?
- Complimenting Chamorro, who urged her colleagues at the Summit to share the goal of strengthening the role of women and girls throughout the hemisphere.
- The benefits of investing in girls and women.
- Programs undertaken in Nicaragua reinforcing the goals of Miami and Beijing:
    - Education (PERA)
    - Human rights
    - Reducing maternal and child mortality and better health generally

SLIDE 8: Working ropeline after speech

- The speech was attended by women from a broad range of Nicaraguan life: politics, government, the arts, media, education and social welfare organizations.

FRANCISCO BUITRAGO (Byou-TRA-Goh) HEALTH CENTER

SLIDE 9: Girl greeting with flowers.

SLIDE 10: In Oral Rehydration Therapy room

- The health center is a government-funded clinic that provides primary health care services, including immunizations, oral rehydration therapy, maternity care and family planning. I toured the facility with Nicaragua's Minister of Health, Dr. Muñoz.
- The Oral Rehydration Therapy Room is used to administer oral rehydration salts and to weigh babies (shown in slide) to monitor their progress.

SLIDE 11: HRC holding baby in Oral Rehydration Therapy Room.

SLIDE 12: Puppet show

- The children performed a puppet show about diarrheal disease prevention, entitled "The Dream of a Clean Neighborhood." The show is part of the "Child-to-Child" initiative in which children teach other children good health and hygiene practices.

SLIDE 13: Another of puppet show.

SLIDE 14: HRC watching puppet show with kids and mothers.

CHILE

LA PINTANA COMMUNITY CENTER

SLIDE 1: Children performing skit

- The community center I visited is located in La Pintana, one of the poorest districts in Santiago. It houses foundations chaired by Mrs. Frei that work to provide programs for children, develop leadership skills among women and expand women's networking opportunities. They also provide family counseling.

- The children's skit focused on the three regions of Chile and the special characteristics of each.

SLIDE 2: HRC and Mrs. Frei participating in discussion with women and their families.

SLIDE 3: HRC and Chilean man

- This man talked with me about how the family counseling had led him to be more involved in his family. He talked about how before the counseling all he did was hang out with his friends, never realizing how rewarding it could be to spend time with his family and realize his full potential as a husband and father (you might mention the billboard in Nicaragua).

MECE (MAY-say) SCHOOL

SLIDE 4: In computer class

- The MECE program (Basic Education Improvement Program) in Chile is supported by the World Bank and the Chilean government. At the secondary level, this program seeks to prepare students for careers in the secretarial, sales and accounting fields. MECE is a wonderful example of how the Chilean educational reform work has improved the quality of education for students at all levels.

- I saw the computers and watched the children working on those computers. I then heard a briefing about how the schools are now going to be open on Saturdays and maybe Sundays s well so that children whose parents are working, or who have no alternatives for productive use of their time, will be able to come back to school to learn some new and additional skills. This kind of reform movement, and the kind of investment it represents, is a clear statement about what Chile really believes is important.

SLIDE 5: Watching dance program

- The students performed a musical presentation of folkloric dances and songs in the school's courtyard.

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT AND MRS. FREI

SLIDE 6: Meeting with President and Mrs. Frei

- I spoke with President and Mrs. Frei about the remarkable progress they have made, both in promoting democracy and in economic growth. President Frei also told me about their educational reform projects. President Frei has made it a priority to increase social spending to improve housing and education for the poor.

SPEECH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHILE

SLIDE 7: HRC and the University Chancellor (Dr. Levados) signing the University register

- The Chancellor told me about Teddy Roosevelt's trip to Chile, during which he spoke at the University of Chile about many of the same issues highlighted during your trip.

SLIDE 8: Speaking at the University about the importance of education.

THEMES:

- Education is the cornerstone of any strong and lasting democracy. Throughout our hemisphere, we will continue to depend on today's students, and we will have to continue to invest in them. Because increasingly, education is central to all of our goals for a more prosperous, peaceful 21st century. But if we look honestly at our hemisphere today, we have to admit that barely half of the children in Latin America now finish elementary school and far too few graduate from secondary school. We all have a stake in what happens in the children's throughout our hemisphere.

- PERA - Because education is so critical, government leaders at the Summit of the Americas in Miami agreed to create a hemispheric Partnership for Education Reform Initiatives (PERA). This important initiative will bring together governments, development organizations, non-governmental organizations, and businesses to help reform education policies. That means that all nations will be pursuing a plan similar to Chile's to improve the quality of teaching and schools, to raise educational standards, to improve the management of schools, and to strengthen the education of

women and girls, which is a key to economic prosperity everywhere.

MEETING WITH PROMINENT WOMEN AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

SLIDE 9: Meeting at Ambassador's residence.

- A number of women play a significant role in Chile's national life. This meeting was hosted by Mrs. Alicia Guerra, the U.S. Ambassador's wife. Members of the National Assembly were there, as well as Ambassadors, executives, educators and artists - we had a rich discussion about common ground that all women can relate to.

SLIDE 10: Group shot of meeting

PEÑALOLEN (PAIN-ya-low-len) MICROCREDIT EVENT

SLIDE 11: HRC and microcredit borrowers at table.

- I met with women involved in TPH and Accion. The TPH (Work for Brother) program, which is funded in part by USAID, is home to some 50 "microbusinesses" and features fresh produce vendors and a flea market. The vendors usually use their first loan to buy a brightly-colored cover for their stand, which also serves as a symbol of solidarity with other micro-business owners.

SLIDE 12: HRC with needlework/folk art

- The woman who gave me this quilt told a story about getting her first loan and using it to buy a sewing machine. She was so happy that she kissed the machine when she got it.

- Another woman in the discussion told me how she felt like "a bird freed from its cage" when she got her first loan.

SLIDE 13: Buying vegetables from a vendor

SLIDE 14: Walking on the street with Mrs. Frei.

SLIDE 15: Accepting flowers from the owner of a flower stand.

BRAZIL

BRASILIA

SLIDE 1: Signing guest book with Mrs. Cardoso

- We flew from Chile the same day to visit Brasilia

- Mrs. Cardoso is a sociologist and urban anthropologist and has long been active in social causes. She was named by her husband to head the Advisory Council to the Secretariat for Community Solidarity, which coordinates social programs at the federal, state and local levels.

SLIDE 2: HRC with President Cardoso

- President Cardoso was elected a year and a half ago on a platform of economic and political reform. The Cardoso Administration's first priority was to pass market-opening economic constitutional reforms, a process the U.S. supported. Among the issues we discussed were steps Brazil was taking to improve access to education.

SLIDE 3: Meeting with President Frei and the US delegation

- Accompanying me were:
  - Ambassador Babbitt
  - Alex Watson, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs (we regret that he's about to leave State for an important job with the National Wildlife Federation)
  - Richard Feinberg, who has just left NSC for academia, and
  - Mark Schneider, Assistant Administrator at USAID

SLIDE 4: Meeting with prominent women

- Mention the woman legislator from the Amazon region

SALVADOR DE BAHIA - PROJETO AXE CIRCUS SCHOOL (Street Children)

SLIDE 5: Kids in a line dancing

- The circus school works with Brazilian street children to teach them the importance of discipline, team work and self-esteem. This is just one example of the many NGOs working in Brazil to provide assistance to at-risk youth

SLIDE 6: HRC watching circus

SLIDE 7: Kids on pole

SLIDE 8: Kids on unicycles

SLIDE 9: HRC greeting one of the kids

CIDADE MAE COMMUNITY POST (Vocational Training)

SLIDE 10: In discussion at Cidade Mae (See-DODD MY)

- Cidade Mae is a program of vocational training, counseling and life skills orientation for poor youth in Salvador, principally girls. At this center, youth aged 10-17 spend their out-of-school hours in vocational training programs including appliance repair, cutting and sewing, handicrafts and gardening to try to develop skills that would lead to self-sufficiency.

- One girl in the discussion cried when she saw the computer that you had brought. She said she never dreamed that she would have an opportunity to work on such a state-of-the-art computer. She was so clearly motivated.

SLIDE 11: Touring facility

- This slide shows boys learning how to repair appliances.

SLIDE 12: Girls making pottery

LUNCHEON WITH PROMINENT WOMEN

SLIDE 13: Group shot

- The women predominantly worked with NGO's and discussed their challenges and successes.

TSYILLA BALBINA HOSPITAL

SLIDE 14: Touring Tsyilla Balbina Hospital

- Infant and maternal mortality are extremely high in northeastern Brazil. In response, the State of Bahia's public health department, with technical assistance from USAID, is implementing a state-wide program of integrated women's health care, including family planning. A great number of women coming to this facility are there because of complications resulting from self-induced abortions. At the clinic, women are taught the basic facts about reproduction and family planning.

SLIDE 15: HRC with moms and kangaroo babies

- The "kangaroo baby" technique is used to help treat premature babies.

SLIDE 16: Discussion at hospital

- The Minister of Health, Dr. Magalhaes, was with me for the tour and discussion. He is committed to taking this successful program to the countryside.

GOLD CHURCH

SLIDE 17: Touring the Gold Church

- This is one of the many examples of marvelous baroque churches in Salvador with gold leaf decor and fine wood carvings.

- There is a myth that there is a church for every day of the year in Salvador (i.e. 365). And this one, as you can see, is very beautiful.

SLIDE 18: Looking at the ceramic tiles in the Gold Church

- The tiles were uncovered and restored.

OLODUM BAND

SLIDE 19: HRC with the Olodum Band in the Pelourinho district

- This historic district of Salvador was restored in the early 1990's as a special project of the state government. It is now a lively cultural center, with beautiful buildings, restaurants and shops.

- Olodum is a well-known percussion band that is important in Salvador because of its community education efforts and its message of pride in Salvador's Afro-Brazilian cultural heritage and identity.

SLIDE 20: Olodum band

- After being entertained, we dined on local cuisine.

MEETING WITH JORGE AMADO

SLIDE 21: Meeting with Jorge Amado

- Jorge Amado is the foremost living author of Brazil.

- His wife, Zelia Gettai, also an author, attended the luncheon with prominent women.

PARAGUAY

SLIDE 1: Asuncion, Paraguay: Arrival at Airport

- I was invited to participate in the Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, which set as its agenda to follow-up on commitments made at the Symposium on Children of the Americas, held for First Ladies concurrently with the Summit of the Americas.

SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, DECEMBER, 1994

SLIDE 2: Symposium on Children of the Americas at the Summit of the Americas

Summit of the Americas:

- The President invited all democratically-elected leaders of our hemisphere to a Summit in Miami to forge a partnership for prosperity for our region. The Miami Summit focused on the following themes:

  - preserving and strengthening the community of democracies
  - promoting prosperity through economic integration and free trade
  - eradicating poverty and discrimination
  - guaranteeing sustainable development and protecting the environment

Symposium on Children of the Americas:

- In Miami I convened the First Ladies of the Hemisphere to discuss the Summit of the Americas initiatives as they relate to the needs of children. The Symposium on Children of the Americas focused on the following Summit of the Americas goals relating to the well-being of children:

  - universal access to education
  - support for all children to complete primary school
  - assurance of proper nutrition
  - universal access to basic health care
  - reduction of child, infant, and maternal mortality
  - strengthening the role of women in society

SLIDE 3: Second slide of Symposium

SLIDE 4: Symposium break-out session -- HRC listening to Mrs. Zedillo (Mexico)

PARAGUAY: Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

SLIDE 5: Opening Session of the Paraguay Conference

- I was pleased to be invited to attend the annual First Ladies meeting. This was the first meeting attended by the First Ladies of Canada and the U.S.

- The following specific initiatives of the First Ladies emerged from the Miami Symposium and were discussed at the Paraguay Conference:

  1 - Pan American Health Organization Measles Elimination Campaign

    - the First Ladies of Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama made presentations on the measles campaign at the Paraguay Conference

    - I was honored to kick off the Campaign at PAHO World Headquarters on World Health Day in April 1995.

  2 - Girls' education and improving the overall quality of education

    - the First Lady of Mexico, Mrs. Zedillo, made a presentation on girls' education at the Paraguay Conference on projects in their countries.

  3 - Reducing maternal mortality in the hemisphere

    - The First Ladies of Bolivia, Canada, and Suriname made presentations at the Paraguay Conference

SLIDE 6: Talking with PAHO representatives

- Talking with officials from the Pan American Health Organization: Dr. Irene Klinger and Dr. Ciro de Quadros

IMMUNIZATION EVENT

SLIDE 7: Slide of Young Girl being immunized against the measles

- I looked on with Mrs. Wasmosy and a PAHO official, Dr. Ciro de Quadros

- As part of the Conference, Mrs. Wasmosy launched the PAHO measles elimination campaign for Paraguay

LUNCHEON HOSTED BY MRS. WASMOSY

SLIDE 12: Dancers performing at the luncheon

PEACE CORPS EVENT

SLIDE 13: HRC with Peace Corps volunteers

- Paraguay has the largest group of Peace Corps volunteers in the world. They are working in rural health projects emphasizing child and maternal health and also working with at-risk youth.

SLIDE 14: Peace Corps volunteer speaking

CONCLUSION

SLIDE 1: Children

- Conclude with remarks about the importance of children, the theme of the trip.
- More than half of the population of the hemisphere is under 23 years old.
- In Miami, you said, "From the Queen Elizabeth Islands to Tierra del Fuego, our children are shouldering burdens rarely encountered by older generations"

UNCLASSIFIED

Brazil: Meeting with Mrs. Cardoso

Context of the Event

Mrs. Cardoso will receive you at the Alvorada Palace and expects to meet privately with you for about one half-hour. Afterwards, a tea with people selected by Mrs. Cardoso will take place at the presidential residence. You might compare notes with Mrs. Cardoso about the outcome of the Beijing meeting and exchange views on the upcoming First Ladies meeting in Asuncion. Mrs. Cardoso may want to tell you about her "Community Solidarity" (Comunidade Solidaria) project in Brazil. Like her accomplished husband, Mrs. Cardoso is a distinguished academic who has done post-doctoral studies in sociology and anthropology at Columbia University. As you know from the Cardosos' April visit to Washington, she is completely comfortable in English.

Your Objectives

- To learn more about Mrs. Cardoso's role in social welfare issues in Brazil, particularly Comunidade Solidaria
- To exchange views on the First Ladies meeting in Asuncion.

Talking Points:

- I admire your efforts to bring together federal, state and municipal governments to stimulate effective social action in Brazil.
- I understand you are seeking to do this by improving structure and coordination, and that Comunidade Solidaria (pronounced koh-moon-ee-DAH-gee so-lee-DAR-ee-ah) has no independent budget.
- What success have you had to date?
- What plans to you have for the future?
- I understand that the Ibero-American summit in Bariloche, Argentina and your prior commitments preclude your joining us tomorrow in Salvador. I hope to have the opportunity to see in action some of your country's programs to respond to social needs.

UNCLASSIFIED

Brazil: Tea at Alvorada Palace

Context of the Event

After a private meeting meeting with Brazilian First Lady Ruth Cardoso at the Presidential residence, Alvorada Palace, she will escort you to another room for tea with a selected group of Brazilian women whom Mrs. Cardoso will have invited to meet you. The tea is expected to last approximately one hour.

Your Objectives

- To meet a range of outstanding Brazilian women;
- To exchange ideas on problems of special interest to women, children and families; and
- To express support for Brazil's progress as a democratic society and current economic reform efforts.

Talking Points

- I am pleased to have this opportunity today to exchange ideas and experiences in the areas in which both you and I have been active.
- Brazil and the United States have much in common, as we both seek to build democratic, prosperous multiracial societies.
- We have both coped well with some problems, but we face others that continue to defy our best efforts to solve -- such as problems of poverty, race and treatment of women.
- I believe that these problems have solutions, and that we can and must work together to solve them.
- I am particularly interested in seeing first hand tomorrow in Salvador da Bahia, the efforts of Brazilians to expand education and health opportunities for women, children, and families.
- Brazil's democratic progress and economic reform efforts are of special interest to me, and I expect to learn much from Brazilians over the next two days.

UNCLASSIFIED

Brazil: Meeting with President Cardoso

Context of the Event

Your meeting with President Cardoso will come at the conclusion of the tea with Mrs. Cardoso and invited guests. The Brazilian side has not yet decided how they wish to handle the meeting, but you will either be escorted out to meet separately with President Cardoso, or he may drop by near the end of the tea.

Your Objectives

- To relay greetings from President Clinton, recalling the success of President Cardoso's state visit to Washington last April;
- To note with appreciation President Cardoso's contributions to the success of the Summit of the Americas and its follow-up process, and efforts of the Rio Protocol Guarantors to help Peru and Ecuador resolve their border differences; and
- Express support for Brazil's progress as a democratic society and President Cardoso's economic and social reform efforts.

Talking Points

- President Clinton sends his best regards and regrets that his schedule doesn't permit him to visit Brazil himself at this time.
- Your state visit last April was a great success and gave new impetus to further improving in our traditionally excellent bilateral relations.
- President Clinton also very much appreciates your contributions to the success of the Miami Summit follow-up process.
- Brazil's contributions to the Rio Protocol guarantor efforts have removed the threat of war between Peru and Ecuador. Our joint efforts have made possible the beginning of direct negotiations between the parties, and we both need to stay engaged.
- Brazil's democratic progress, the economic and social reform efforts are of special interest to me. I look forward to seeing first hand in Salvador some programs to expand education and health opportunities for women, children and families.

UNCLASSIFIED

Brazil: Projeto Axe's Circus School

Context of the Event

The "Circo Escola" (Circus School), one of several institutions run by Projeto Axe, is located on a wide expanse of beach. The daily classes and this performance are conducted in a large circus tent, with seating around the perimeter. Former street children will make the presentation in the center.

You will be met by Cesare La Rocca, Director of Projeto Axe. (Axe is an African word, a blessing.) La Rocca is Italian, a former priest, who was UNICEF's Deputy Director for Brazil. He speaks some English. He will escort you into the tent, where one of the children will be Master of Ceremonies. A variety of acts will be performed, including acrobatics, trapeze, unicycles and clown acts. You will also meet Anselmo, manager of the Picolino Circus, whose staff teaches the children the secrets of the circus. The "Circus" is used by Axe, not as professional training but as a means to teach children the importance of discipline, team work, and self-esteem.

Other groups working with street children in Salvador will be present at the circus site, displaying products of their work such as school furniture, sophisticated silk-screen materials, recycled paper products, T-shirts and other clothing.

Your Objectives:

- To meet a range of Salvador's non-governmental organizations that provide assistance to at-risk youth.
- To see the creativity and spirit of these children.
- To express USG concern over the situation of street children and youth at risk of delinquency, prostitution, violence and death.
- To show USG support for innovative programs helping street children, such as Projeto Axe, which is supported by USAID.

Talking Points

- I am delighted to be at the Axe circus school and to see such an impressive display of the energy, talent and commitment of the young people here.
- I applaud the leaders of Projeto Axe and other groups gathered here for the difference they are making in the lives of so many children.
- Our government is proud to support these efforts through our "Youth at Risk" project. Our own children suffer from similar risks to their safety and well-being. Through international cooperation, we can achieve progress together for the benefit of all children.

Brazil: Cidade Mãe

Context of the Event

Cidade Mãe is a program of vocational training, counseling and life skills orientation for youth in Salvador, principally girls. The program was started and supported by Salvador's mayor, Mrs. Lidice da Mata. You will visit one of Cidade Mãe's community centers, where youth aged 10-17 spend their out-of-school hours. (School in Brazil is four hours per day.) Vocational training programs include appliance repair, cutting and sewing, handicrafts and gardening. The Mayor and Mrs. Juvelita Carvalho, Project Director, will escort you on your visit to the center, describe their program and their links with the community, including the community advisory board that is created at each site. A room at the center will be set up for a brief presentation by the Mayor and staff, to which you will make responding remarks.

Your Objectives

o To meet women leaders who are actively addressing the problems of adolescents and young girls in Salvador's poor communities.

o To express support for orientation, training and education for girls, including interventions with families and preventive programs on unwanted pregnancy, STD/AIDS, and drug abuse.

o To emphasize USG concern for education of girls, as shown by the new Partnership for Education Revitalization in the Americas (PERA) initiative.

Talking Points

o I am delighted to visit Cidade Mãe, and to see so many young women who are industrious, committed and producing such beautiful work.

o I congratulate Mayor Lidice and the staff of the project on their efforts, which are showing such obviously good results.

o I have drawn attention in the US and other countries to the need for education and training for girls. Our Government emphasizes these priorities in its international cooperation. PERA, a new initiative in this area, will address the needs of youth in Latin America and provide a network for us to share experiences, lessons learned and hopes for the future.

Brazil: LUNCH with Prominent Women

Context of the Event

At this breakfast meeting, you will meet prominent Brazilian women from all walks of life. Since the breakfast will take place on the Sunday morning of a holiday weekend, most of the participants will be from the Salvador area, but we will try to include a small sampling of American women leaders resident in Brazil. Although many of the participants share a special interest in women, children, and families, the group will include politicians, public sector technocrats, professionals, representatives from NGOS, educators, and writers with a broad range of interests.

We propose to hold the breakfast at the Meridien Hotel, which has experience and appropriate facilities in its business/convention center for hosting such events. Invitations will be issued in your name, but the Ambassador's wife, Mrs Joan Levitsky, will be on hand to greet visitors and introduce you. After receiving the guests, Mrs. Levitsky will escort you to your table. At an appropriate time after all have been seated, she will introduce you and invite you to open the discussion, encouraging the informal give and take we hope the setting will engender. We anticipate the breakfast and ensuing discussion to last 60 - 90 minutes.

Your Objectives

- To meet a range of outstanding Brazilian women;
- To exchange ideas on problems of women, children and families; and
- To express support for Brazil's progress as a democratic society and Brazil's current economic and social reform efforts.

Talking Points

- I am pleased to meet with you today to exchange ideas and experiences in the areas in which both you and I have been active.
- Brazil and the United States have much in common -- we are nations of people from many cultures: We seek to build democratic, prosperous, multiracial societies.
- We have both coped well with some problems, but we face others that continue to defy our best efforts to solve -- problems of poverty, race and treatment of women.
- I believe that these problems have solutions, and that we can, and must, work together to solve them.
- I am particularly interested in seeing today in Salvador some of Brazil's best efforts to expand opportunities for education and health for women, children and families.

TOP 20 FOR LUNCH IN SALVADOR

Mrs. Rosiska Darci de Oliveira
President of the National Council for Women's Rights - Ministry of Justice, Brasilia

Ms. Aspásia Brasileiro Alcântara Camargo
Executive Secretary - Ministry of Environment, Brasilia

Minister Vera Machado
Press Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Relations, Brasilia

Senator Benedita da Silva
Workers' Party - Rio de Janeiro (PT/RJ)

Senator Emília Fernandes
Brazilian Labor Party - Rio Grande do Sul (PTB/RS),

Deputy Marta Suplicy
Workers' Party - São Paulo (PT/SP)

Mrs. Paulo Souto
Wife of Governor of Bahia, Salvador

Mrs. Lídice da Mata
Mayor of Salvador, Salvador

Dr. Balbina Pessoa
Coordinator, Group of Attention to Women, Health Secretariat of the State of Bahia, Salvador

Mrs. Renata Jereissati
Labor and Social Work Secretary of the State of Ceará, Fortaleza

Dr. Hélia Barbosa
Head of CEDECA - Center for the Defense of Children's and Adolescents' Rights, Salvador

Mrs. Maria Rita Lopes Pontes
Irmã Dulce's niece, Head of Obras Sociais Irmã Dulce, Salvador

Mrs. Neylar Coelho Vilar Lins
Superintendent of the Odebrecht Foundation, Salvador

Mrs. Jacqueline Pitanguy
CEPIA - Citzenship, Study, Research, Information, Action, Rio de Janeiro

10-05-1995 18:03

Mrs. Ana Vasconcelos
Casa da Passagem, Recife

Mrs. Olga Maria de Almeida Câmara
Police Director for Children and Adolescents of the State of Pernambuco, Recife

Ms. Maria Helena Tachinardi
International Editor of GAZETA MERCANTIL newspaper, Brasilia

Ms. Thais Mendonça
Journalist, Brasilia

Mrs. Daniela Mercury
Singer, Salvador

Mrs. Zélia Gatai
Writer, Jorge Amado's wife, Salvador

Federal Gov.	- 3
State Gov.	- 6
Congress	- 3
NGOs	- 4
Press	- 2
Arts	- 2
Total	-20

doc: 0529k
drafted: POL: AMACHADO

Brazil: Jorge Amado

Jorge Amado was born in Ilheus, Bahia, Brazil. He is the foremost living novelist of Brazil. Author of 26 novels, translated into 103 languages and holder of 26 prizes: among them the French Academy Prize for Latin Writers, given once every five years, the Sophia Prize, given once every ten years, and the Lenin Prize. Amado is the only Latin American to have ever received the French Academy Prize and to have been the central theme of a Pompidou Center Exhibition. He is a member of the Brazilian, French, Russian and Portuguese Writer's Academy. His first novel to be published by Alfred Knopp in 1945, was entitled Violent Land and became a best-seller and movie theme. Amado's most successful book in the U.S. was Dona Flor and her Two Husbands - theme of a highly successful movie and Broadway musical. The rights of the novel Showdown granted Amado, (only in advance) US$250,000. and also the record for being the only writer out of the U.S. to achieve that ceiling.

Brazil: Pelourinho District and Olodum Band

Context of the Event:

The Pelourinho is a historic district of Salvador, with buildings date to the 16th century. "Pelourinho" is the word for the post in the center square, where slaves were tied up to be traded and publicly beaten. This area was crumbling into ruins until it was restored in the early 1990s as a special project of the state government of Bahia. The Pelourinho is now a lively cultural center, with beautiful buildings, restaurants, and shops. Projeto Axe, which you visited earlier in the day, has a shop selling high-quality clothing produced by street children working with two Italian fashion designers.

Olodum is a well-known percussion band, with many rotating members, that will perform for you in the Pelourinho. Olodum is important in Salvador for its community education efforts and its message of pride in Salvador's Afro-Brazilian cultural heritage and identity.

The Pelourinho is set on steeply sloped hills, with rough cobblestone streets and sidewalks. Sturdy shoes with low heels are essential.

Your Objectives:

o To meet leaders from Salvador's Afro-Brazilian community.

o To attend a cultural event by one of Salvador's major musical groups, which emphasizes community participation, training for youth and Afro-Brazilian identity.

o To witness the restored historic center of Salvador, which represents a valuable part of Brazil's heritage.

Talking Points:

o Express appreciation for the beauty of the Pelourinho district and its restored historic buildings, and for the quality of the effort the State of Bahia put into its restoration.

o Mention the importance of supporting local community and cultural groups, which serve a critical function in lower income neighborhoods, especially with youth.

Brazil: Women's Health Hospital

Context of the Event

Infant and maternal mortality in Bahia, as in the rest of northeastern Brazil, are shockingly high for a country of Brazil's level of development. Unwanted pregnancy and illegal abortion are widespread. The State of Bahia's public health department, with technical assistance from USAID, is implementing a state-wide program of integrated women's health care to address these serious issues.

You will visit Joao Batista Carybe Hospital*, a public institution where the state health department of Bahia (SESAB) is implemented such a program. The Secretary of Health, Dr. Jose Maria Magalhaes, and the Director of Bahia's Women's Health Care Program, Dr. Balbina Pessoa, will accompany you on the visit. They will show you the facilities, and will emphasize SESAB's efforts to improve services for women.

Your Objectives

o To see how the State of Bahia, with USAID support, is addressing critical problems of women's reproductive health through a progressive, integrated program.

o To express USG support for women's health care programs, recognizing that access to family-planning, pre-natal, maternity, and cancer-screening services are critical elements of public health.

Talking Points

o I recognize the serious nature of the problems affecting women's health in Brazil -- the lack of resources to provide quality services, the lack of access to family planning methods, and unwanted pregnancies, especially among adolescents. I wish to commend the State of Bahia for actively addressing these problems.

o Programs that give women the means to make their own decisions and to control their own lives are an important part of public health.

o We hope to continue our collaboration with you on women's health issues through USAID programs.

o I hope that in the future, health care professionals like those who work here in the Women's Health Program will be able to report significant reductions in infant and maternal mortality here in Bahia.

* The Tysalla Balbina Maternity Hospital may be substituted, if desired.

file S America

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 21, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON HRC

CC: SECRETARY OF STATE WARREN CHRISTOPHER
NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR TONY LAKE
USAID ADMINISTRATOR BRIAN ATWOOD

SUBJECT: REPORT ON LATIN AMERICA TRAVEL
OCTOBER 12-17, 1995

Thank you for asking me to travel to Latin America. The purpose of my six-day visit to Nicaragua, Chile, Brazil and Paraguay was to advance the Administration's goals to alleviate poverty; promote universal, quality education; provide wider access to health care; and protect the rights of women and children throughout the Western Hemisphere. These United States goals were endorsed in Miami at the Summit of the Americas by the hemisphere's thirty-four democratic leaders and addressed directly by the hemisphere's First Ladies at the Symposium on Children.

During the trip, I stressed that only with persistent progress on social goals will the region be able to attain and sustain democracy and economic prosperity. This message was received with enthusiasm. I sensed a real commitment to tackle difficult but critical social issues and saw firsthand the region's incredible recent progress. As I traveled, I found that representatives of the entire political spectrum -- even in countries with a recent history of severe political polarization like Nicaragua and Chile -- now understand the compelling arguments for social progress. Media coverage on this message was universally positive.

Political leaders repeatedly made reference to the commitments made in Miami. This is particularly true for the social issues. The Latin American representatives had pushed the hardest in the preparatory sessions leading up to Miami for a strong focus on poverty eradication. It was in fact the Central Americans, working with a hemispheric coalition of private-sector and NGO leaders, who first proposed what became the Summit's initiative on women's

rights. There were also repeated references to the United Nation's Fourth World Conference on Women and the issues of the Conference -- microenterprise; comprehensive health care, including family planning; education; programs that value women as full and equal partners in society; freedom from violence; full political participation for women. These themes were underscored again and again.

Schedule of Speeches and Site Visits

In each country, through public remarks and site visits, I sought to focus attention on one or more critical social issues:

Nicaragua

In Nicaragua, I focused on the theme of the rights of women and children. President Violeta Chamorro had been the leading sponsor of the Summit's initiative on women's rights. In an economically depressed barrio, I visited a community-run bank which makes small loans to women microentrepreneurs. There, I observed the transforming impact that credit has had on lives and livelihoods. I also visited a primary health care clinic which is part of Nicaragua's new decentralized public health delivery system, and I engaged in a discussion with patients and staff. Both of these projects are supported by USAID. My speech in Nicaragua drew linkages between social investments and durable democracy through the metaphor of family:

> "We see that through better health, education, and good jobs, women are building stronger families. We see that through democratic reconciliation and investments in people, Nicaragua is building a stronger national family. And we see that, as the Nicaraguan family unites and your economy grows, your nation will continue to be a vital partner in building a hemispheric family of democracies."

I also had the opportunity to visit with President Chamorro at her residence and talk informally with her about Nicaragua and its challenges. Mrs. Chamorro hosted a luncheon to which she invited members of her Cabinet, particularly those who oversee social programs.

Chile

In Chile, my focus was the value of education and educational reform. I visited a World Bank-supported model vocational training school, where I saw a demonstration of education through computers and learned of plans to equip the schools with interlinking technology. As an example of Chile's education reform agenda, I was told of a proposal to

keep the schools open on weekends to allow children to pursue interests and help parents who are working. Mrs. Frei introduced me to her work with publicly-funded foundations which serve poor families by providing head-start-like day care and equipping women with marketable skills. The foundations also have innovative programs to involve fathers so they can realize the full potential of parenthood. Also in Chile, I participated in a forum on the importance of microcredit with representatives of community-based lending institutions and borrowers who had become economically self-reliant.

My speech at the University of Chile praised Chile's strong educational system and highlighted our common goals for educational reform that strives to improve high school completion rates, promote quality training to enable workers to compete in the global marketplace, and nurture civic virtues to encourage participation in democratic decision-making. The University's rector noted that Teddy Roosevelt had spoken in the same Hall of Honor in 1917 and had outlined the many collaborative efforts that link the institution to the United States. I also had the opportunity to meet informally with President Frei at the Presidential Palace.

Brazil

In Brazil, I focused on the health of women and children. We visited modern Brasilia as well as Salvador de Bahia, the capital of the poverty-ridden northeast. Site visits in Salvador included a circus which aims to save street children by enhancing their teamwork and self-esteem, a community center which provides health, education and vocational skills to at-risk adolescents, and a hospital which assists in birth and also cares for women who have performed self-induced abortions. The hospital's programs emphasize how critically important health education and family planning are to the poor community, and the programs I saw provide a model for replication. The Minister of Health is hoping to extend this successful USAID-supported program to rural areas in the region.

In Brasilia, I had an excellent meeting with President and Mrs. Cardoso. In Brasilia and Salvador, I participated in discussions with prominent women who are involved in addressing challenges in the areas of jobs, health, education, family life and other careers. President Cardoso discussed an education initiative he was about to announce that would address the problem of school drop-outs by putting more federal resources in schools below the university level.

Paraguay

In Paraguay, I participated in the Fifth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, an annual Conference which brings together the spouses of the leaders of our hemisphere. This Conference marked the first year that North America has participated, and therefore the first year that it was a hemisphere-wide gathering. The Conference focused heavily on follow-up to the issues we had discussed at the Symposium on Children in Miami. We called attention to three concrete initiatives stemming from the hemispheric Summit: the eradication of measles by the year 2000, reduction of maternal mortality by one-half by the year 2000, and education reform. I was proud to announce USAID support for a new Partnership for Education Revitalization in the Americas (PERA), which is designed to help identify, disseminate and replicate innovative education reform programs throughout Latin America. Also, as I had helped launch the measles eradication campaign initiative at the PAHO headquarters last April, it was especially gratifying to learn of the activities of the hemisphere's First Ladies in support of the measles project. The First Ladies of this hemisphere are actively engaged in their own countries on these important social issues.

In my keynote address on the opening night of the Conference, I stressed that the conferences in Miami, Copenhagen and Beijing have made clear that democracy and prosperity cannot be attained or sustained in countries that do not value women as full and equal partners in society. President Wasmosy spoke eloquently about the important role that a First Lady can play in working to better life for the people of her nation. He lauded Mrs. Wasmosy's work and stressed how complementary he viewed their efforts.

The success of the Conference was noted by representatives of international organizations, such as UNICEF, PAHO, and IDB, who participated in the Conference as resources. They remarked that the Conference was one of the most impressive discussions in which they have participated, highlighting innovative developments to enhance progress on pressing social concerns. As First Ladies, we signed a declaration and agreed to be actively engaged in the issues we discussed, ranging from microenterprise and family planning to innovative education programs.

Also in Paraguay, I met with representatives of the Peace Corps in Paraguay, which was holding a training session for its volunteers. Paraguay has the largest number of Peace Corps volunteers in the world, and it was a pleasure to hear from the American men and women who are on the front lines trying to make a difference in the quality of life in Paraguay.

Conclusions

Throughout my visit, it was striking how very small amounts of money, when placed in the hands of dedicated, well-organized institutions, can transform people's lives. USAID programs, working in partnerships with international and local NGOs and with official entities at federal, state and local levels, are having a positive impact. The World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Organization of American States, the Pan-American Health Association and the Inter-American Foundation are all investing in people in innovative ways. We need to do more to publicize these success stories so that they can be replicated widely, including in the United States. Development assistance is a critical component of our broad-based, active engagement in the hemisphere and it calls for our continuing strong support.

Latin America is a very diverse region undergoing dynamic change. The countries I visited are diverse in size, living standards and political development. Nicaragua and Paraguay are two small countries emerging from decades of repressive rule. President Chamorro has made great strides in consolidating democracy and restructuring the economy, even if Nicaragua is still traumatized by years of internal conflict and remains desperately poor, with over half of its population under the age of twenty-one. The United States can continue to work to promote national reconciliation. While the military still casts a shadow over political life in Paraguay, the current government appears to be working to strengthen democracy and make government accountable to its people. In his remarks at the opening of the First Ladies Conference, President Wasmosy focused his comments on the commitment to democracy.

Brazil enjoys the strong, enlightened leadership of President Cardoso, who reiterated his determination to stabilize the economy and is working with his wife, Ruth, to invigorate civil society and reform the health and education systems. The Cardosos noted that they very much enjoyed their State Visit last April and seek to forge a new partnership with the United States. Chile appears to be a spectacular success story, combining economic stability, democratic politics and a concern for social equity that has lifted many of its citizens out of poverty since democracy was restored in 1990. The Chilean government appears to be on track to attain the developmental status of southern Europe and become an articulate leader that other countries will seek to follow. The government and private sector continue to be very concerned about NAFTA fast track, and I reiterated the President's support.

Latin America continues to make progress, but the

region still confronts severe problems -- some of which we also face in the United States. Poverty is widespread and overwhelming in some areas and governments are handicapped by fiscal constraints and inflexible bureaucracies. Educational systems are badly in need of reform, both to reduce the high drop-out rates and to graduate students who can compete in the marketplace of the twenty-first century. Women are still undereducated and underpaid and many, many poor children crowd the streets of the continents' poor barrios.

Future Engagement

The United States has made a difference in ensuring hemispheric progress. It is my observation that Latin America seeks close working relations with the United States on a wide range of important issues, relations based on a genuine exchange and mutual learning. Finally, I believe we need to continue to help our neighbors strengthen their emerging democracies, expand market economies, and promote social integration.

The annual First Ladies' Conference offers another instrument to advance social progress.

Attached are copies of the speeches I gave in Nicaragua, Chile and Paraguay.

✓ cc: Melanne

file Smith Duncan

Despacho de la Primera Dama
REPUBLICA DE BOLIVIA

La Paz, marzo 18 de 1997
DPD-189-97

Dear Hillary:

Thank you very much for sending me the lovely pictures, which Ambassador Kamman was kind enough to personally deliver. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

In late January I went to Panama to turn the Pro Tempore Secretariat over to Dorita Boyd de Perez Balladares, who will be hosting the VII Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas. There was a special event held at the Presidential Palace, followed by a decoration ceremony where I was honored to receive the medal of Vasco Nuñez de Balboa.

I want you to know how much I enjoyed having you in Bolivia for our December Conference. Your participation was very valuable. I strongly believe that with each conference, we become stronger as a group in our commitment to issues related to health care and education, to the eradication of violence against women and children, to feeding programs that help keep children in school -specially young girls- and so many other complex needs that must be addressed. I will continue to support the efforts of my dear friends and colleagues in whatever way I can.

I have been keeping up with your activities through the press and CNN and send you every good wish for a successful and rewarding second term as First Lady.

With my best personal regards,

Yolanda Iturralde de Bozzo

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Av. Arce 2335 - Teléfonos 355603 - 361061 - 361460 - Fax (591 - 2) 356973 - La Paz, BOLIVIA